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Compromise among senators eyed on border security. ► **PAGE 20**

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The Philippines deploys fresh troops to a disputed shoal.

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LIFE & STYLE



Actor James Gandolfini dies in Italy at the age 51. ► **PAGE 24**

TO REMAIN IN THE COMMONWEALTH BEYOND 2014

'Options exist for E2-C investors'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday that some alternative status for long-term foreign investors in the CNMI with E2-C status is provided either in the sweeping immigration reform bill now being debated at the U.S. Senate "or later in the legislative process," amid some investors' concerns that they will be forced to exit the islands when the E2-C program ends on Dec. 31, 2014, unless granted improved status.

» **Inos administration says issue is under US government purview**



Sablan

Any alternative status for E2-C investors, he said, is likely to entail background checks and examinations of their investments, tax records and hiring history, among other things.

Sablan's statement about alternative status is in addition to the omnibus bill that he introduced, H.R. 2200, which seeks to extend the life of the E2-CNMI investor status beyond 2014, among other things.

The delegate issued a statement yesterday on the heels of concerns and demands for improved

status raised by some E2-C investors on Tuesday.

The Inos administration separately told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that while they recognize the E2-C investors' concerns and appreciate their contributions over the years, "it is important to note that the issue at hand is under the purview of the United States government."

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued the investor rule which, among other things, allows eligible foreign long-term investors with a minimum of \$50,000 instead of \$150,000 in investments to remain in the CNMI through Dec. 31, 2014.

The DHS rule states that by the end of the federalization transition period on Dec. 31, 2014, these investors are required to obtain another U.S. immigrant or nonimmigrant visa classification.

"While the administration understands the concerns being raised now, this also was not a surprise deadline, it was known since 2010. But ultimately, this is a matter that can only be addressed at

See E2-C on Page 4

PUBLIC MARKET PROJECT

Acting Department of Public Lands secretary Pete A. Tenorio, left, signs a document conveying public lands to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for the development of a public market complex at the Garapan Fishing Base, while DLNR Secretary Arnold Palacios, right, looks on during yesterday's brief ceremony attended by Gov. Eloy S. Inos, other government officials and community members.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

◀ **See story on Page 5**

Merger plan for 2 schools underway

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Plans to combine two Saipan public schools failed in the past but the same proposal seems inevitable this time following disclosure of a series of meetings conducted by the Public School System to make it happen this new school year.

This was the feedback received by *Saipan Tribune* from personnel, parents, and some students of Tanapag Elementary School and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, and many are worried

about the impact this may have on affected students and families.

The merger plan for GTC and Tanapag elementary schools first surfaced in April 2012 after several parents from GTC appeared at a Board of Education meeting and expressed their opposition to the plan. The board did not act on the merger proposal and it was never carried out.

See MERGER on Page 4

» **New Tanapag Junior High may be in the offing**



Guerrero

Muña found guilty of poker robbery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Maximo S.N. Muña was found guilty yesterday of all charges related to the robbery of the poker arcade of J's Restaurant in Gualo Rai in October 2012.

After deliberating for about three hours yesterday, the six jurors reached a unanimous verdict finding Muña guilty of armed robbery. The jurors began their deliberations late afternoon Wednesday.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, ruled that

the prosecution proved beyond reasonable doubt that Muña committed one count of theft, one count of criminal contempt, and four counts of disturbing the peace.

The charges carry a maximum total prison term of 23 years.

He will be sentenced on Aug. 20, 2013 at 1:30pm.

In light of Muña's past criminal convictions, Govendo said he is considering slapping the defendant with maximum penalties. He directed the Office of the Adult Probation to prepare a presentence investigation report.

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Arrest warrant for Fitial reissued. PAGE 3
Carolinian Affairs, OVR chiefs step down. PAGE 8

Local

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Commercial fishing, cargo operation eyed on Tinian

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has disclosed that a Guam-based company wants to establish a commercial fishing operation on Tinian and had submitted proposal to lease the seaport property on the island.

Acting CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama said that Xiong's Family Inc. is requesting to lease a portion of the west quay of Tinian Harbor for its planned business.

Lizama sought the board's blessing to start negotiations with the company.

According to Tinian airport and seaport manager Joseph Mendiola, the Xiong company also plans to operate a separate cargo business targeting service throughout Micronesian islands.

CPA board members were informed that the firm's proposed longline fishing operations will include two vessels that are registered in the CNMI for operation within its waters. These vessels, according to Mendiola, are now being refurbished and would be homeported on Tinian in a couple of months. The vessels each measure 63 feet and weigh 48 tons.

When asked about feedback from Tinian residents, Mendiola reported that he had not heard of any opposition to the business and, as matter of fact, residents are excited as the new venture will bring a competitive market to Tinian.

Mendiola revealed that the company is seeking a long-term lease on the seaport property and is committed to fix the sea-

See FISHING on Page 4

Boyer wants a more 'engaged' Rotary

Laila Y. Boyer, the incoming president of the Saipan Rotary Club, wants to adopt the international civic organization's theme "Engage Rotary and Change Lives" during her term of office.

Boyer, who will replace Oliver "Pete" W. Shilling during the Rotary Club's installation dinner tonight, said the incoming officers' plan for Rotary is to "increase Rotary's presence in the lives of our members and in our community by engaging in meaningful service and projects."

Most of the local Rotary Club's current projects will also be carried over during her term, save for the annual Parade of Books.

"We are going to target the junior high school students with a new endeavor, Rock to Read," she said.

Boyer, who is president of *Marianas Variety*, said she and the incoming set of officers

are also looking at introducing small but high impact projects, such as a new dental room at the Rota Health Center, groundbreaking on the Kagman Children's Park, and business career workshops, to name a few.

Aside from Boyer, other officers that will have their oath-taking tonight are Richard Cody as secretary, Nhing Reyes as treasurer, Curtis Dancoe as Community Service director, Reina Camacho as Club Service director, Kelley Butcher as Vocational Service director, Ivan Ilmov as New Generation Service director, Pete Igitol as International Service director, Glen Perez as Pau Harris Foundation official, and Wayne Gillespie as sergeant-at-arms.

The Rotary Club of Saipan's installation dinner will be held tonight, 6pm to 9:30pm, at the Caladium Hall of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort & Spa. (*Saipan Tribune*)

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Arrest warrant for Fitial reissued

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman reissued yesterday the arrest warrant he previously issued for former governor Benigno R. Fitial.

Wiseman vacated the penal summons he signed on March 7, 2013, and reissued the arrest warrant he issued on March 6, 2013.

The judge issued the order following Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel George L. Hasselback's renewed request on Monday.

Hasselback first filed the request to reissue the arrest warrant on May 7 but the court did not act on it. He then renewed his request so that the prosecution of the case against Fitial may proceed.

The OPA counsel said there has been no communication from either Fitial or anyone acting on his behalf about any plans to return to the CNMI to answer the criminal charges filed against him.

It was reported last month that Fitial is recuperating from gall bladder surgery in the Philippines.

The United States has an extradition treaty with the Philippines but it is not yet known if the CNMI will ask the Philippines for Fitial's extradition to the Commonwealth.

OPA has filed seven criminal charges against Fitial for his role in an alleged conspiracy to

shield former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham from being served a penal summons in August last year.

Wiseman first issued the arrest warrant against Fitial on March 6, 2013, but withdrew it the following day and instead issued a penal summons that ordered Fitial to appear in court at 9am on the first Monday after receiving the summons to answer the charges.

Only Fitial remains unserved with the arrest warrant in connection with the alleged conspiracy case. The other persons charged were Buckingham, former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogunmoro, Commonwealth Ports Authority police chief Jordon Kosam, CPA's Capt. Juan T. Rebuenog, and Fitial's former personal driver and bodyguard, Jermaine Joseph W. Nekaifes.

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Woman allegedly repeatedly stabs boyfriend with 2 knives

A woman allegedly repeatedly stabbed her boyfriend using two knives during an argument inside their house in Chalan Kanoa early Monday morning.

The victim sustained multiple stab wounds in the upper body and was treated at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Melissa Acosta, 30, was arrested yesterday and taken

to Superior Court for a bail hearing on charges of aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and disturbing the peace. She is being kept on a \$50,000 cash bail.

Police detective Francisco Romeo Iginoef stated in his report that the Department of Public Safety received a call

about a disturbance on Monday at 3:24am.

A police detective responded to CHC where at the time a doctor and nurses were treating the victim of his injuries.

The victim told police that Acosta first stabbed him repeatedly with a 5- to 7-inch stainless knife.

When the victim managed

to grab the knife, Acosta took another stainless knife that was about 3 inches long and stabbed him again repeatedly.

Acosta then went outside and called 911.

The boyfriend said he went to the poker room at Townhouse Shopping Center where he called his family to pick him up. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

MUÑA

From Page 1

The trial began on Monday.

Assistant attorney general James McAllister told reporters after the hearing that they are very pleased with the verdict as they believe that the jury made the right decision.

“But most importantly, we really appreciate their patience and participation throughout the trial,” McAllister said.

He said the prosecution received overwhelming support in this case from the Department of

Public Safety and Attorney General’s Investigation Unit’s investigators and police officers.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField assisted McAllister in the trial.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyers, counsel for Muña, refused to comment.

Police said a masked man armed with a machete went inside the poker arcade of J’s Restaurant at 5:35am on Oct. 4, 2012. The robber, who was later identified as Muna, grabbed a plastic basket containing over \$120 in coins inside the cashier’s booth then ran outside the building.

The machete was left at the scene and police recovered some coins in the parking lot area.

Police said the supposed driver of the getaway vehicle panicked when people started screaming and running to the parking lot of J’s Restaurant during the robbery. The driver drove off, leaving Muña behind. The driver was later pulled over by a police car.

The driver, who identified Muña as the masked man, testified for the government. He reiterated his previous statement to police that prior to the robbery, Muña came to his house

in Koblerville and in the early morning of Oct. 4, 2012, Muna instructed him to proceed to J’s Restaurant and park the vehicle near the DEQ building.

The driver said that Muña put on a mask, took a machete, and headed toward J’s Restaurant.

The driver said he became nervous when people in the restaurant started screaming and running to the parking lot of J’s Restaurant.

The driver left and headed south on Middle Road, where a police vehicle pulled him over. He was later released. The government did not charge him.

MERGER

From Page 1

Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the same proposal is again being pushed by Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., and she is expected to make a presentation on the plan next week.

“The commissioner submitted a proposal but it has not been acted or discussed by the board. The commissioner is looking at feasibility and will be reporting at the board meeting on Wednesday. But before the board acts on it, we need to consult the stakeholders,” Guerrero said.

He disclosed that Sablan “has been sounding out the staff of

affected schools as well as PTAs and members of community” about the idea.

Saipan Tribune learned that the proposed merger of the two schools was discussed at a June 7 meeting of GTC staff and personnel. A week later, on June 12, the commissioner brought up the same topic during a meeting with Tanapag school personnel.

Tonight, a meeting called by the Parents Teachers Association of GTC will also highlight the possible consolidation of the two schools and the opening of a northern middle school.

Sources disclosed that PSS plans to house all kindergarten to fifth graders at the GTC campus while sixth graders to eight graders will be at the Tanapag campus, which would be renamed Tanapag Junior High School.

At present, Tanapag is home to 180 students from kindergarten to 6th grade. It has nine teachers. GTC has 211 students and nine teachers.

According to sources, teachers of both campuses were given the option to choose which of the two campuses they want to go to.

In a letter to the editor submitted yesterday by 9-year-old Magdalen Rit Ruak Santos, a third-grader of Tanapag Elementary School, she expressed opposition to the idea.

“There are currently 178 little Tatagas at Tanapag Elementary School and that’s not including Head Start and Kindergarten. GTC has over 200 students. They may have the advantage over us in numbers, but their campus is not equipped to handle 400-plus students, which

Tanapag school could easily hold,” she said.

“This school means more to us than just a place that you go learn. It’s where we build our childhood memories, where we are encouraged to grow and be independent. It’s a place that we want to share with our children as they are growing. We ask that you please reconsider this plan to close Tanapag Elementary School, if not for our happiness, at least for a safer environment,” she added.

Due to budgetary concerns, PSS merged the Rota Junior High and Rota High School in 2011 and renamed it the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School. Two years after, board member Tanya King recently disclosed that opposition among teachers and students remain strong.

Slots still open for history workshop

The history research workshop being organized by Northern Marianas Humanities Council is still accepting applications a week after its original deadline.

Council executive director Scott Russell said that only eight have so far signed up for the 40-hour history research workshop that will be held starting Monday at the Northern Marianas College.

Russell said they have slots for as many as 16 students and he is inviting students, history teachers, or just about anyone who has an interest in the subject to sign up for the workshop.

This workshop will be facilitated by University of Guam professor Dr. Anne Perez Hattori. To be considered for one of 16 workshop slots, applicants must be highly motivated, possess strong writing skills, and have a strong interest in local history. The workshop will focus on practical aspects of historical research and writing.

The major products of the workshop will be original research papers and 20-minute conference-style presentations made by participants.

Successful student papers will be added to public library collections in the CNMI and Guam.

Workshop participants will also be encouraged to present their research at the 2nd Marianas History Conference in Guam in late August.

Hattori, *familian Titang*, teaches courses on the history of Guam, Micronesia and the Pacific, as well as historical research and theory.

Workshop application forms may be obtained from the council office in Gualo Rai, from Loretta Borja, at the Public School System’s HRO Office, and from Thomas D. Sharts, department chair of Social Sciences and Fine Arts, at Northern Marianas College. The application submission deadline is today, June 21, 2013. *(Saipan Tribune)*

FISHING

From Page 2

wall at no cost to CPA.

At present, the company has two personnel and plans to hire up to 10 local workforce for its operation.

Board member Fermin Sakisat expressed concern about this promised employment benefit for residents.

“In my experience, several investors have the same language [about employing locals] in their proposal but it never came true,” he told colleagues at a recent meeting.

According to Mendiola, the employment of local residents may be factored into the lease agreement with CPA. “Maybe we can put that in the conditional lease to make sure they will get our local people,” he said.

On how soon the business can start, Mendiola said it all depends on how fast the company could complete the permitting requirements of both CPA and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Seaports facilities committee chair Benigno Sablan, for his part, expressed support for the business and encouraged the CPA management to work with the company.

Airport committee chair Barrie Toves said it is important for the board to see the company’s business plan. He said the firm is negotiating for a long-term lease of a 170-foot, 1,088-ton landing craft vessel that will be operated in CNMI and Guam for cargo.

However, both Mendiola and Lizama admitted that since formal negotiation has yet to commence, other details about the business are undisclosed at this time.

E2-C

From Page 1

the national level with the White House, DHS, or even with the U.S. Congress,” press secretary Angel Demapan said when sought for comment.

Some long-term foreign investors in the CNMI want those with E2-C status to be included in the U.S. Senate immigration reform bill, S. 744, so they can also obtain improved status.

S. 744’s main goal is to provide a pathway to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in the United States. The bill also includes a provision that also grants a pathway to citizenship to long-term, legal foreign workers and other groups of aliens in the CNMI.

“But even comprehensive immigration reform will not result in an instant change of status, as some E2-CNMI investors say they want,” Sablan said.

Under current federal immigration law, million dollar in-

vestors who employ a minimum of 10 U.S. workers must wait at least five years after obtaining a U.S. visa before becoming eligible for citizenship.

“Comprehensive immigration reform will not be more generous,” Sablan added.

Extending E2-C status

Without a change in federal law, the E2-CNMI status will end in 2014, Sablan said, that’s why he introduced H.R. 2200.

Some E2-C investors such as members of the CNMI Chinese Investors Association led by its president Kevin Tang said they do not support extending the E2-C status because it will only further prolong the current uncertainty and instability of investment climate in the CNMI.

The group said they would rather be granted improved status so they can stay in the CNMI and continue to invest here.

Sablan said yesterday that he met with a number of E2-C investors and believed that they

supported his proposal to extend the E2-C status.

“So, it was surprising to read in the news that E2-CNMI investors are not interested in being included in this extension,” Sablan said. “If this is the case, I can certainly amend H.R. 220, so that it does not cover them.”

Before taking that step, Sablan said he would want to meet with more of these E2-C investors or with an organization that speaks for them.

Sablan said he would also consult with Gov. Eloy S. Inos to get his views on the significance of the E2-CNMI investments and what their loss might mean to the CNMI’s future economy.

Investments in CNMI

Representatives of the CNMI Chinese Investors Association said their members alone have a total investment of more than \$20 million in the CNMI and have employed over 1,000 individuals. They said these do not include those of other

E2-C investors.

Sablan said the news reports certainly raise question about E2-C investments by pointing out that even after all these years in the CNMI, the total value of E2-CNMI investment is only about \$166,000 per investor on average and that these investments are concentrated in so many small-scale operations such as car washes, tire shops, mom-and-pop stores, Laundromats, and massage parlors.

E2-C investors interviewed on Tuesday represent those in the business of wholesale, small hotels and restaurants, car rentals and all other small- to medium-scale businesses.

Sablan said he also would want to know more about the 1,000 jobs that E2-CNMI investments reportedly generate.

He wants to know how many of these jobs are held by U.S. workers.

The delegate also said he understands too well the anxiety and uncertainty that the transi-

tion to federal immigration created in the CNMI.

He said that law was already enacted when he came to Congress, and he has spent much of the last four and a half years working to make the transition less difficult.

“There is still more to do. H.R. 2200 will help, as will the provisions for the Northern Mariana Islands that I succeeded in having written into S.744, while the Senate Gang of Eight was negotiating the text,” he said.

In the meantime, if E2-CNMI investors choose to leave the CNMI because of the uncertainty or because they believe they would find a better immigration status or improved opportunities for return on their investments elsewhere in the world, “then that is certainly their prerogative,” Sablan said.

“I would respect their decision,” he added.

Senate Vice President Victor Hocog (R-Rota), a former businessman, said during Wednes-

day’s session that some E2-C investors’ statement that they will pull out some \$20 million investments from the CNMI was an “unwarranted threat” and an “insult.”

Betty Bai, publisher of the *Saipan Chinese News*, said last night that Chinese E2-C investors just want to bring to the attention of others who are not aware of their issues regarding immigration status. She said perhaps some of the comments would have been better left unsaid.

“Fortunately, the CNMI is not falling into a xenophobic edge. We can settle our differences and overcome antagonisms if we would remove its ambivalence toward foreign investment and making CNMI as an attractive place for foreign investors. While we are in federalization transition, there is no precedent for us to follow, and no ready experience for us to refer to. I believe CNMI leadership has wisdom to deal with situation,” Bai added.

\$2M public market complex to rise at Garapan Fishing Base

»DPL conveys 14,000 square meters of public land to DLNR

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

An estimated \$2 million permanent public market complex will be developed at the Garapan Fishing Base, giving a one-stop venue for residents and tourists to showcase and buy locally harvested fruits and vegetables, fresh seafood, local arts and crafts, as well as partake in live entertainment and cultural and art demonstrations.

The Department of Public Lands, through acting secretary Pete A. Tenorio, formally conveyed some 14,000 square meters of public lands at the Garapan Fishing Base yesterday to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, through Secretary Arnold I. Palacios.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and assistant attorney general Gil Birnrich also signed off on the assignment of grant of public domain during yesterday's brief ceremony.

"I've seen alternatives on the table [for the site]. I think it's about time that we move on," the governor told the

crowd at the Garapan Fishing Base yesterday.

Palacios said DLNR estimates that the project, once fully developed, will cost some \$2 million.

Palacios said that thanks to a \$200,000 U.S. congressional earmark that Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) worked on in 2010, the public market complex now gets underway, starting with the development of scope of work with the help of the Department of Public Works.

He said the original plan included almost 30 stalls for a seafood market and a fruits and vegetable market, as well as arts and crafts. Fresh poultry products such as pork and beef are also expected to be sold at the site. There will also be a place for live entertainment.

The governor requested

DLNR to "fast track" the project.

"This is good for the economy," the governor added.

Palacios, in an interview later, said that public markets are always "an attraction for visitors" anywhere in the world and this project is expected to also draw island residents.

He said DLNR is working with DPW on the scope of work for the architectural and engineering design and is compiling previous project plans to see whether they can be used or replaced with something new.

He said DLNR has also re-

ceived feedback from federal and local partners that are willing to help find sources of additional funding to make the first public market complex of its kind in the CNMI a reality. Section 702 or capital improvement project funds could also be tapped for the project.

"This is our project," Palacios told the crowd.

The existing building at the Garapan Fishing base across Horiguchi Building will be renovated, stalls will be built, and landscaping will be added. Inos said he hopes that the pier will also be reworked.

Palacios said the site for the Tuesday Night Market

and the Thursday Night Market will remain, and may also be improved.

Roxanne Diaz, Division of Public Health director, said DPH welcomes the public market complex project because it complements public health programs that promote a healthy lifestyle such as eating fresh fruits and vegetable, along with exercise, to prevent lifestyle diseases such as diabetes.

"This is a very monumental day for all of us and we look forward to collaborating [with DLNR]," Diaz added.

Lawmakers, other government officials, farmers, fish-

ermen and other community members also attended yesterday's ceremony.

The revival of the public market complex project comes seven years after former governor Benigno R. Fitial cancelled the project when he offered the site to an Ohio-based investor that sought to build a floating hotel on Saipan. The project did not materialize.

The Garapan Fishing Base is a historic site, having served as Saipan's commercial port before World War II. Today, the base is used as a boating ramp, parking area by fishermen who go fishing, the Tuesday and Thursday street markets, Liberation Day festival grounds and other festivities.

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Corporation bares 'concerns' about health care impact tax

»Rota residents, Saipan chamber of commerce express opposition

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. interim CEO Esther Muña bared that the Division of Public Health Services has received some opposition to the health-care impact tax bill, based on the results of two initial public

hearings it conducted on the proposed law.

Muña, who read the division's report to the corporation board at their Thursday meeting, said these oppositions were gathered from hearings on both Saipan and Rota.

Muña disclosed that Rota residents and businesses believe

the bill will hurt their island's economy and aggravate the suffering of people who are already faced with high prices of commodities.

The passage of the bill will also result in a possible layoff of workers because they believe that fewer sales of the targeted products will negatively affect

the gross sales of businesses.

Rota residents that attended the April 29 hearing also pointed out the need for more education on non-communicable diseases, or NCDs.

During the public hearing on Saipan on May 15, both the Department of Commerce and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce expressed opposition to the bill.

For Commerce, the government is already taxing the targeted items via Public Law 13-38. It believes that taxes from this law and the cover-over tax should go to the corporation in order to prevent further taxation, as proposed by House Bill 18-34.

Instead of the proposed tax,

Commerce believes that there should be more NCD education in order for the public to make their own personal choices.

According to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, as quoted by Muña in her report to the board, the government already excessively taxes the items covered by the bill and another tax will not reduce the use of the targeted products. The Chamber believes the public should not be penalized with another tax just to meet the corporation's funding needs, which came about due to years of mismanagement.

HB 18-34 was introduced on March 28 by Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro. The bill currently sits

with both House committees on Ways and Means and Health and Welfare.

A public hearing on Tinian has yet to be scheduled.

'Letters of support'

According to Muña, however, majority of the public who spoke at the Saipan hearing supported the legislation.

The division also received an influx of letters of support from various individuals, groups, and organizations, she said.


Muña cited the letters of support from the Pacific Island Health Officers' Association, Commonwealth Cancer Association, Kosrae Tobacco Program, Chuuk State, Pacific Partners for Tobacco-Free Islands, Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Substance Abuse & Recovery Coalition, and Alex 'Colonel' Sablan. The division expects more letters of support to come as discussion on the bill progresses.

Muña said the Public Health Division continues with its outreach presentations to educate the public about NCDs.

A non-communicable disease is a medical condition or disease that by definition is non-infectious and non-transmissible among people. NCDs may include autoimmune diseases, heart disease, stroke, many cancers, asthma, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, osteoporosis, and more.

The Health Care Impact Tax legislation aims to impose a 150 percent ad valorem tax on tobacco; 70 percent ad valorem on alcohol; and 70 percent on sugar-sweetened beverages. Besides the potential revenue, it was introduced to curb people's behavior.

Based on corporation estimates, the bill if passed into law will generate approximately \$11 million a year, a portion of which can be used to address NCDs.



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Saipan

Crisostomo, Cruz top Tinian Junior High graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tinian Junior High School bestowed yesterday its highest academic honors on Gerald King Crisostomo Jr. and Jemimah Edith Cabantog Cruz, who were named class valedictorian and salutatorian respectively.

Crisostomo encouraged his peers to continue to strive for excellence and never give up on their dreams.

"As we proceed to high school, each of us will encounter obstacles along the way, but let these be challenges. We need to stay focused, be proactive, and stay on track of our goals. Never quit, never give up, and we will

school year wouldn't have been filled with laughter and happiness without you guys. I am glad that I had a chance to meet new people who I can rely, trust and enjoy my moments with this school year," she said.

On this year's Top Ten list are Crisostomo, Cruz, Jerica Borja Aldan, Leona Anne Cabrera Dela Cruz, Thia Liana Takasi King, Halani King Aldan, Eddeza Loraine Nucum Labrador, Daesha Jonamae Iba Santos, Ritalind Flores King, and Denise Ann Borja Cruz.

The honorable mention award went to Keithley Dela Cruz Marquez.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., had nothing but high praise for the Class of 2013.

"You are the class that broke the

conquer," he told the crowd.

Jemimah, meantime, is the daughter of Lorna and Jose Cruz. In her address, she described the momentous occasion as a mix of emotions.

"Everything we went through together gives us more reason to remember each other the most. Middle school has been a blur filled with mixed emotions. This

CNMI PSS record in 2008 to achieve the systemwide reading goals. You are also the class that broke the record in 2010 in meeting the PSS Stanford Achievement Test 10 50-percentile rank, raising the level of student performance to that of the rest of the nation. I look forward that this group will continue to break records," said



The Top Ten students are presented with their awards.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sablan during yesterday's promotional rites.

The promotional ceremony

was graced by education officials, Education Board members, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela

Cruz, lawmakers, Municipal Council members, parents, and community members.



GERALD KING CRISOSTOMO JR.
Valedictorian



JEMIMAH EDITH CABANTOG CRUZ
Salutatorian

The two led a class of 171 eighth graders who were promoted to high school during special ceremonies on campus.


This year's top awardee is the son of Ann Marie and Gerald King Crisostomo Sr. The younger Crisostomo is also the recipient of this year's Principal's Leadership Award.

In his valedictory address,

Congratulations


Priscilla Isa Flores Maratita Iakopo

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Early Signs of Autism Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Red flags to watch for from birth to age 3

Social

Children with autism may:

- Not share warm, joyful facial expressions, such as smiles by 6 months
- Not babble and coo by 12 months
- Not respond to their name by 12 months
- Use few or no gestures (e.g., does not wave goodbye, point, etc.) by 12 months
- Not play "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact
- Avoid other people and prefer to play alone
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled
- Have delayed speech and language skills.

Behavioral

Children with autism may:

- Be very organized (e.g., line up toys or other objects)
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have odd movement patterns (e.g., flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles)
- Have frequent temper tantrums
- Be overly active
- Purposely hurt themselves
- Repeat words or actions over and over
- Look at objects from unusual angles.

Other areas

Children with autism often:

- Are overly sensitive to touch, sounds, taste or smells
- Lack fear in dangerous situations
- Have an intense need for routines
- Have learning difficulties
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using).

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact your baby's doctor or call the Children's Developmental Assistance Center at **664-4830** for a free developmental screening.

**Children with autism can learn, grow and succeed.
Early action is the key!**



Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.



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Carolinian Affairs, OVR chiefs step down

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos confirmed yesterday that he accepted the resignation letters of executive assistant for Carolinian affairs Angie Iginoef-Mangarero and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation director Margarita Olopai-Taitano, both of whom stepped down for personal reasons, including retirement.

"They have basically decided they want to go ahead and retire or leave government service, so it was pretty much mutual," the governor said in an interview at a public market complex project ceremony at Garapan Fishing Base yesterday.

He said the administration has designated acting directors within the organization "until we find a 'permanent'

replacement.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said Olopai-Taitano resigned from office on June 10 "for personal reasons."

Lou Atalig, OVR fiscal officer, has since been named acting director for OVR.

Demapan said Iginoef-Mangarero, meanwhile, resigned from office on May 8 "amid her decision to retire from government service."

"Gov. Inos is coming close to naming a new person to the position. Until then, the operations of the Carolinian Affairs Office remain under the supervision of the Special Assistant for Administration," he said.

The governor also recently accepted the resignation of Rita Chong-Dela Cruz as Coastal Resources Management administrator.

In yesterday's interview, the governor also confirmed that grants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to CNMI agencies were not suspended, and that there was only a change in the release of grant funds because of a delay in the submission of the 2011 government single audit.

The CNMI also has to submit its 2012 single audit but the governor said the CNMI may not be able to meet the June 30 deadline, so they have already asked for an extension of the deadline.

Agencies affected by the change in NOAA grant payment from an automated system to a reimbursement basis are the CRM, Division of Environmental Quality, Division of Fish and Wildlife, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office.

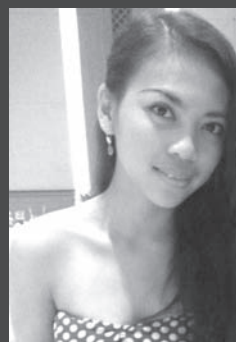


DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. staffer Keomi Palacios, second left, presents a Certificate of Partnership to The Athlete's Foot manager Soledad Tenorio, third left, and her staff for their participation in the Pacifica Loyalty discount program. TAF will be extending 5 percent off shoes, clothing, watches, eyewear, and accessories regularly priced to Pacifica Loyalty cardholders. The Pacifica Loyalty program is open only to individuals and businesses insured with Pacifica Insurance. It is designed to help its customers save money. For information about Pacifica Loyalty, log on to www.pacificains.com/pacificaloyalty.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday Ninang Sheryl Rose Alazar! Wishing you good health, happiness, and more blessings and birthdays to come! With lots of love from Bobby.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday, Donna Cabrera! Let us celebrate what only you can give us each and every day, the gift of you! Greetings come from your only big baby boy, DJ, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 21, 2005

'Hope of JAL changing its mind very, very dim'

The Commonwealth stands to lose as much as \$216.2 million in economic output annually when Japan Airlines suspends its flights to Saipan, according to a study by a U.S.-based economic and financial consulting firm. The economic impact study, presented at the Japan Tourism Summit last week, showed that JAL's impending pullout could result in the loss of 2,550 jobs and \$38.8 million in personal income annually. This projection was based on a worst-case scenario, where none of the passenger traffic currently brought in by JAL would be picked up by other carriers.

Justices, judges spent \$50K in travels

The Judicial Branch tapped public funds totaling \$50,000 for the travels of justices and judges in fiscal years 2004 and FY05. Records showed that Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan has the biggest spending of \$11,081.40; followed by associate judge Kenneth Govendo, \$9,543.81; presiding judge Robert C. Naraja, \$7,888.04; associate justice John A. Manglona, \$5,562.32; associate judge Juan T. Lizama, \$5,257.50; associate judge Ramona V. Manglona, \$4,547.49; associate justice Alex Castro, \$3,255.75; and associate judge David Wiseman, \$2,760.15. Documents showed that Demapan was issued 28 travel authorizations or TAs for his airfare and per diem during the period: five in 2003, 19 in 2004, and four in 2005.

June 21, 2006

No money yet for this week's pension

No money has been identified yet for this week's payment of retirees pension, according to NMI Retirement Fund. In an interview, Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said the board has not made any new authorization to take out money from its reserve account. "There's no go-signal yet from the board. We can't just withdraw money without board authorization," said Reyes. Since April this year, when the central government stopped remitting its employer contribution, the Fund board would authorize the Fund management to withdraw from its emergency account to pay off pension of some 2,000 retirees. As of Friday last week, the Executive Branch made official its suspension of retirement contribution until the end of fiscal year 2007 by enacting Public Law 15-15.

NMI opposes UH tuition hike

The CNMI government is trying to rally region-wide opposition to a proposal to increase the cost of tuition for Pacific islanders attending the University of Hawaii. Daniel H. Nielsen, the governor's special adviser for education, sent a letter to about 60 politicians, education, legislative, and community leaders throughout Micronesia and Hawaii, asking them to speak up against the proposed tuition hike. The governor's adviser listed arguments as to why the proposal by the UH Board of Regents should not be implemented. He urged Pacific leaders to add their own input and pass their concerns to the UH Board of Regents. "Time is short, so please act as soon as possible. Your immediate help in this effort is, to put it mildly, absolutely essential," he said.

June 21, 2007

Fitial wants immigration hearing postponed

CNMI government and business officials yesterday expressed frustration with the U.S. Senate's fast-paced action on the bipartisan bill federalizing local immigration. Introduced just last Friday, S. 1634 is now set for a committee hearing next Thursday, June 28, 2007, 9:30am in Washington, D.C. (That is 11:30pm of the same day, Saipan time.) Yesterday, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial asked the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to postpone the hearing until the week of July 16.

Moves afoot to stir interest in Pagan pozzolan

The Department of Public Lands is creating moves to stir interest in Pagan's pozzolan. DPL Secretary John S. Del Rosario Jr. announced yesterday that the two-part report on Pagan is now available on the department's website: www.dpl.gov.mp/new/pagan. "This is to avail such report to interested cement manufacturing companies. DPL is also sending manufacturing companies a heads up on these reports in hopes to hear from major manufacturers," said Del Rosario.

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FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
Sweet & Sour Pork Fried Prawns w/ Vegetables Fried Squid w/ Celery Beef Chopsuey Fried Pork Chop Fried Chicken Fried Fish Fillet w/ Chinese Sausage Fried Noodle Fried Rice Laver Egg Soup Sweet Potato Cake Fried Egg Cake Deep Fried Glutinous Rice Ball w/ Sesame Steamed Duns Fruits	Stewed Duck w/ Potato Fried Prawns w/ Vegetables Sashimi Spicy & Sour Chinese Cabbage Spicy & Salt Spare Ribs Broccoli w/ Beef Fried Chicken Pork w/ Chili Sauce Squid w/ Black Beans Sauce Pork Bone Soup Fried Noodle Fried Rice Dumpling Deep Fried Glutinous Rice Ball w/ Sesame Egg Cake Steamed Buns Fruits	Plain Sliced Lamb Fried Prawns w/ Vegetables Steamed Fish Vegetable Salad Sweet & Sour Short Ribs Spicy & Salt Squid Beef Short Ribs w/ Black Pepper Fried Chicken w/ Cashewnut Fried Noodle Crispi Pata Mutton Soup Fried Rice Steamed Dumpling Steamed Buns Spring Roll Taro Roll Fruits	

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“We are also looking for workers who can process coconut and noni products”

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Our sails are torn!

An island economy is a difficult beast to deal with. Foremost is the obvious lack of natural resources upon which it could rely for economic self-support. It is especially vulnerable when revenue generation goes Deep South.

The fiscal disaster is further exacerbated by the lack of an economic blueprint that slams open the floodgates and path to dense disorientation. We now must second-guess our future in perpetuity.

The irony is in the casual disposition we've rendered the essence of planning employing thoughtful deliberations. We've trashed it at will as though there's rock solid fiscal scaffold for our purposes on rainy days. There's none!

Can anyone in government explain with a sense of humility whether our tax policy is conducive to investment or regressive from A to Z? Why have we averted reviewing this issue concurrently with other collateral policy matters? Has anyone researched how federal takeover of immigration and minimum wage has annihilated the local economy? What was your finding and was it positive or definitely regressive?

I was hoping for real rather than perceptual leadership on these issues, but it (leadership) seems painfully elusive. In other words, our men of wisdom have simply failed "due diligence" to moving the lot of our people to the level playing field of economic prosperity. But then it's illusory for most who aren't even sure what to make of the beastly creature. This is where credentials and professional experience matter, isn't it?

It isn't the \$740 million deficit that is troubling as much as the size of government and the parade of inefficiencies being peddled daily on the backs of exhausted taxpayers. Do we have programs that render high rate of return in revenue generation? What are these programs beyond the woefully generous pension sent to Mea Culpa Land when corresponding contributions were repealed by the Legislature?

It's all disorienting and reiterating or glorifying our obvious failures isn't of any help either. Sadly, our sails are torn, if not shredded, in the winds of neglect! Uncertainty now grips the entire archipelago. Sad, eh?

Eh, didn't you take an oath?

It's a known fact that politicians spout what's good for us for all the wrong reasons. To illustrate a point: the corresponding contributions to the Fund was killed or repealed. Result? The program is broke and retirees wonder if they'll continue receiving their pensions beyond 2014.

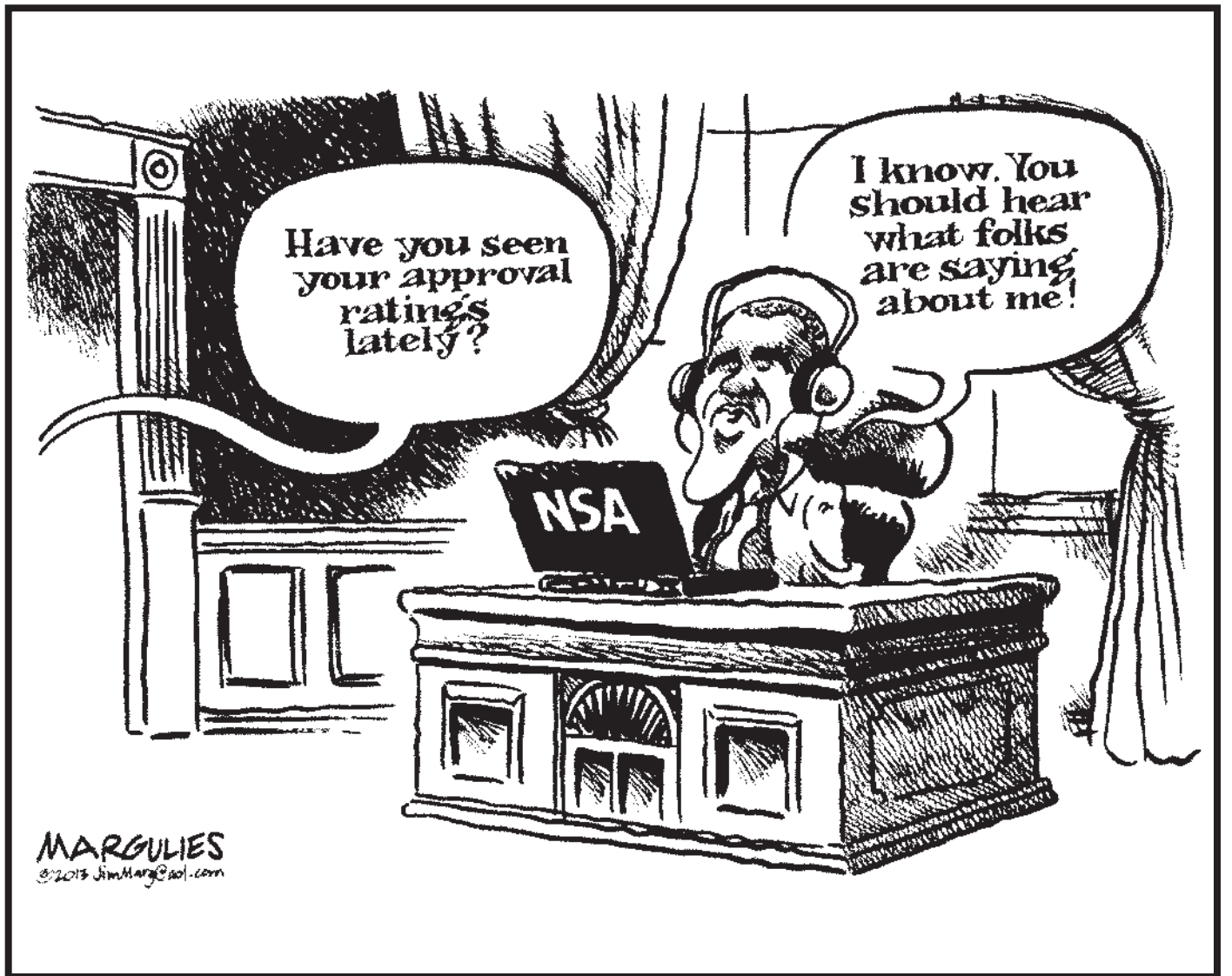
After the wrongful rhetoric, they slip what's right into their back pockets, simultaneously hoping for miracles for that rainy day.

Like fiery magma, that rainy day is here in the form of a fiery superstorm of fiscal disaster. Most folks in the villages now endure subterranean misery in abject poverty, hoping to make it through the day. Paradise is literally a hellish hole!

One could clearly see the obvious disconnect between incumbents and longstanding issues languishing in the sea of *mañana*. Collectively, they've done a whole lot of, yes, nothing!

I can't understand the use of qualifying certificates that grant investors tax-free privileges while revenue generation goes Deep

See OUR on Next Page



Glocal citizenship

"Glocalization" is a term the Japanese started using in the '80s to designate a method of global business really getting embedded in local situations. We started using it in community development work as a code word for "thinking globally, acting locally," then a favored phrase of the ecology crowd. The word "glocal" has not made the OED yet, but having seen it in many different context and occasions, even in Time Magazine, essentially in the same field of meaning, it is a matter of time before it will finally make it. If Google is any measure, the usage is already widespread.

In our title, "glocal" is a consciousness category (cultural), primarily of the mind mentally bridging the gulf between the existentially local and the internationally manifested, (and all the way out of stratosphere to the ends of the known universe), preceding the political formality of "citizenship." To be a citizen formally involves a social contract either in word (constitution) or on procedure/method (consensus).

After WWII, England proliferated with what started as relief agencies like Oxfam, a Quaker communion's response to famine relief when the Allies imposed a blockade on Greece while fighting the Nazis. Consciousness beyond national boundaries emerged. It did not take long for the principle of self-reliance to get promoted. The favored image was: if you give someone fish today, they will eat; if you teach them how to fish, they will have food for a lifetime!

The top-down methodology of assistance began to zero in on the awareness at the down perspective of real need rather than on the generosity of the top, and although the economics was still a trickle-down proposition, a community development approach ensued beyond just promoting the wellbeing of individuals. In relief work, and then in child adoption and other forms of interventions, the notion of training recipients of assistance on ways that would allow for self-support, self-reliance, and self-confidence emerged. When economic development latched on the image of sustainability, the focus of aid went into facilitating recipients to lift themselves up by their own bootstraps.

As a community development worker in the '70s, we were in the developmental mindset of enabling a community to support its own members to meet their own requirements.

Networking became the code word for creating synergy so that folks can assist each other not only on emergency measures, making active social net as a modus operandi in daily existence. Accessing information became the challenge. Apple produced the poetic image of every household accessing the library of Alexandria. Laptops and the Internet turned poetry into prose.

Digital systems have since replaced the printed page. In 15 years since the cell phone got marketed, and now its marriage to Internet access and the functions of the laptop, the ways people

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and was pastor of Saipan Immanuel UMC at the second millenium's turn. He now writes from China.



communicate daily and through social networks have changed, virtually and otherwise.

It was a marvel when we were at academe in the '60s to have one professor pose a question in the morning, send it like a telegraph to a net around the world and have 200 responses by the evening. That has become child's play in the world of cyberspace. Citizens' participation in their own affairs has become a virtual reality.

In Oxfam's educational iteration of learn, think, and act, it embarks in guiding folks into a nascent form of global citizenship. The agency sees this person as someone aware of a wider world than its environs, has a sense of its role as a world citizen, respecting and valuing the diversity of the new world where s/he belongs. S/he understands the reality of economic, political and cultural processes, and is savvy to sustain life technologically and environmentally. Taking responsibility for individual actions, s/he takes exception to any social injustice wherever it is found, participates in and contributes to communal efforts to sustain social existence at levels from the local to the global.

This picture still involves a global body like a United Nations, or an ecumenical body that recognizes historic faith communities, or a global agency to define a legal status of one in the local operating globally. Our citizenship, as is with Oxfam and other NGOs (non-government organizations) is more modest. It is not as much as making the global local and making the local responsive to global realities. The focus is on operating locally with a global operating system.

This is why glocalization is a virtual reality. It does not require legal permission from anyone to be one! The blog and the social net are its constitution and consensus. It begins by describing the authentic reality that surrounds sense existence, expressing the profundity of one's existential feelings, articulating a comprehensive consensus of global essence, and deciding on issues that requires one to fling one's body unto the barb wires of history in an arena of engagement in the local field.

In our time in the CNMI, Pagan looms as the local Elah Valley where the behemoth of a Goliath laughs at the wisdom of the glocalized Davids. Well, we know how the story goes.

Glocal citizenship, an immediate reality, is simply a matter of personal choice.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

In search of summer

Newspapers in the northern hemisphere will be noting that June 21 is the summer solstice. It's not a big deal on Saipan, of course, since it pretty much feels like summer all year around.

Well, that's easy enough. And easy is good, since I'd rather simplify complicated stuff than complicate simple stuff. But this time around I'm going to complicate things. Why? Because the solstice and summer gig never made much sense to me.

Here we go: Why does the summer solstice mark the start of summer? Wouldn't it make more sense for it to mark the middle of summer?

This issue has nagged me since grade school. Unfortunately, the few times I've brought it up, people looked at me like I needed a drool bib and a dunce cap.

But I finally thought I'd take a stab at finding an answer today. Why today? Well, for one thing, of course, the summer solstice is upon us. And for another thing, I have nothing better to do. It's either this or wash the car.

Anyway, as it turns out, 30 years ago the concept got a good write-up. The March 11, 1983, archive of a syndicated newspaper column called the Straight Dope (StraightDope.com), written by Cecil Adams, delved into the summer thing.

Adams took up the issue when a reader asked him why summer starts on May 1 in Ireland.

Long before the Web came along, I used to read the Straight Dope when I lived in the Chicago area. So I was happily surprised to see that, all these years later, it's still around.

Anyway, back to the matter at hand, the gist of the answer was that there was no apparently authoritative decree on when summer

starts. So we can surmise that the Irish, or anyone else, could define their summers as they see fit.

As Adams dug into the subject, he captured the germ of the question that has nagged me for so long. He wrote, "In the Northern Hemisphere the period of maximum daylight falls roughly between May 7 and August 7—in other words, the six weeks before and after the solstice."

Well, yeah! That's always been my point. The summer solstice falls in the middle of this span of long days, not at an extreme end (or, here, beginning) of it. And, by the way, keep those rough dates in mind, they'll come up again later.

Anyway, Adams wraps up the riddle by noting that there is a lag in the period of maximum daylight and the times of warmest temperatures, since it takes time for the Earth to heat up and cool down. So June, July, and August are what meteorologists consider summer, because this jibes with the temperature data.

Problem solved. That's the whole idea behind the Straight Dope, by the way—readers submit questions and Adams answers them with wit and style.

This subject almost surfaced a few years ago when I was in Chinese class. The professor was explaining the two calendars commonly used in China. On one hand, you've got the traditional "lunar" calendar, which, for instance, specifies many of the Chinese holidays. And, on the other hand, there's the "solar" (Gregorian) calendar, which is to say, the Western calendar, which is what specifies today as June 21, 2013.

Anyway, in the middle of all this, I thought I heard the professor say that Chinese summer starts in early May. I got pretty excited at that notion, thinking perhaps that the ancient wisdom

conduct an audit for the entire CNMI government the information needed to complete the "CNMI-wide" audit. CRM has no control or responsibility for this audit. If in fact NOAA grants were suspended because this audit was not provided to them, the responsible agency who could explain the delay for the release of the "CNMI-wide" audit is the Department of Finance and its Secretary.

I am not qualified to speak about the reasons why the audit was late or why it was not submitted on time. I do know that there were valid reasons for the late submission of the audit and that Department of Finance did not disregard this federal requirement.

So to clarify, CRMO is not responsible for submitting reports for other government agencies and CRMO actions do not affect grants those agencies receive.

Finally, Gov. Inos did *not* fire me. As previously stated, I submitted my courtesy resignation without being asked to do so. In his June 17, 2013, letter to me, Governor Inos advised that he accepted my resignation to be effective at the close of business on the date of the letter. The letter did not instruct me to vacate CRMO immediately as the article claims. I was at CRMO that day to meet with staff and to prepare the office for the next CRMO administrator. I wanted to ensure that there will be a seamless transition from me to my replacement.

No matter what my responsibilities are, I have always been dedicated to my job in order to uphold my professional integrity. A non-response to the news article was my first choice; however, because I value my professional integrity, I feel that I need to set the record straight.

My parents raised me to have respect for those in authority. I have never during the Inos administration ever been disrespectful to the governor. I have the most utmost respect for this governor so the

Sorry, had to call you out where you've conveniently ignored your oath of office. Isn't this about integrity and vision to work firstly, in the interest of others, over yours? Eh, has your unearned loot of \$60,000 blinded your once clear eyesight?

The conundrum

In earnest, we try to understand the mess at home, i.e., the fragility of the elected elite walking around ill-prepared to take the bull by the horns, so to speak, to proactively begin the long road to recovery.

Said Buddy Magoo, "Proactive paradigms are difficult when they've been living in the same filthy swamp for so long. Don't expect any decisive strides up that alley. It's empty!"

Kitalaṅ Makabebe related, "But the lights are on, Magoo!" "But nobody's home Kitalaṅ," came the quick answer.

Lamented Magoo, "The issues are a bit too complicated and per-

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



was on board with my solstice-and-summer gig. But I had all of three nanoseconds to relish the thought until I had to scramble trying to keep up with the lecture again, so I dropped the scent of that trail.

But just for the heck of it, this morning I took it up again. I looked at a current Chinese calendar. The result? Mondo coolness.

Remember those rough dates I asked you to keep in mind? Here they are again; well, within one day, which is close enough. Looking at the calendar, I note that May 6 is marked (I'm translating here) "Start of Summer." And August 7 is marked "Start of Autumn."

It's not like the calendar ignored the solstice, by the way. It is duly marked on June 21.

So this just adds fodder to my nagging hunch that summer can, indeed, straddle the solstice if you want to look at things that way. With the sages of the East in my camp, I'm on solid ground.

Unfortunately, I'm also on sunny ground. These long summer days mean there's still enough daylight left for me to get the car washed. So while you're hoisting a cold one to mark the start of the season, I'm hoisting a sponge and a bucket. Well, it serves me right for making such a complicated deal out of a simple word: summer.

insinuation by this article that I would disregard his instructions to submit my courtesy resignation is completely false. I also want to clarify that I was an appointee of the Fitial-Inos administration. It was Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos who offered me a position in their Cabinet. In the 2009 runoff election, I voted for *Ben and Eloy*; not just for Ben.

My resignation letter to the governor stated that I am submitting my courtesy resignation "because I understand that this is a new administration and in your new position as governor, you will want to assemble your own Cabinet." I also went on to say, "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work for the Fitial-Inos Administration and I am very confident that the Inos-Hofschneider team will bring many good things to and for the CNMI." This does not portray someone with utter disrespect for this administration.

So, to *Marianas Variety*, always verify the information you receive from your sources. It is your professional responsibility. A few months ago you publicly crucified two WIC employees by printing a false report that they were arrested. In that moment, you brought turmoil and shame into their lives. Repeating that by headlining a false report about me demonstrates your total disregard for your responsibility to report only facts and only confirms to the public your lack of journalistic integrity and professionalism.

The founders of *Marianas Variety* earned the trust and respect of this community by printing accurate and unbiased reports. Lately, the reports that have been printed in your paper have left many wondering, "What happened?"

Rita Chong-Dela Cruz is a former administrator of the Coral Reef Management Office.

OUR

From Page 10

South. Eh, this doesn't require use of logic but common sense, *sayu lai*? Why can't this law be repealed immediately? With a cumulative deficit of \$740 million, it means saddling some \$13,214 per person Marianas-wide to pay off this debt. Am I making sense?

Is it difficult demanding for an economic blueprint from the administration or is this negligence one of political oneupmanship to, once again, place the needs of the multitude in your back pockets so it is conveniently passed on when no one is looking? It seems the new mantra is to "second-guess" our future amidst the miserable economic conditions you've been consistently forced upon the simple folks in the villages. Is this it, *lai*?

haps far above their heads. Otherwise, they'd be humming in the focus resolution of major issues besetting the archipelago."

Said Kitalaṅ, "They've dealt with bread crumb issues ignoring the economy that has been parading below their nose all these years." Perhaps their self-concocted hopelessness would eventually turn into the filthy swamp of uncertainty. What path!






Sad too how the elected elite has ignored our ripped and shredded sails hanging on a pole already loose at the base. Worst of all, they've simply refused to fix it so we begin planning anew how to navigate it out of the harbor of uncertainty! Are politicians really fearful of doing what's right to reinventing the wheels of investment by buckling down to repealing regressive policies?

Retorted Magoo: "Eh, we the voters elected these guys. So why are you pointing fingers wrongly as to fail to see that three out of five are pointing right back at you? *A' Saina!*"

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲89 ▼81
Palau	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼80

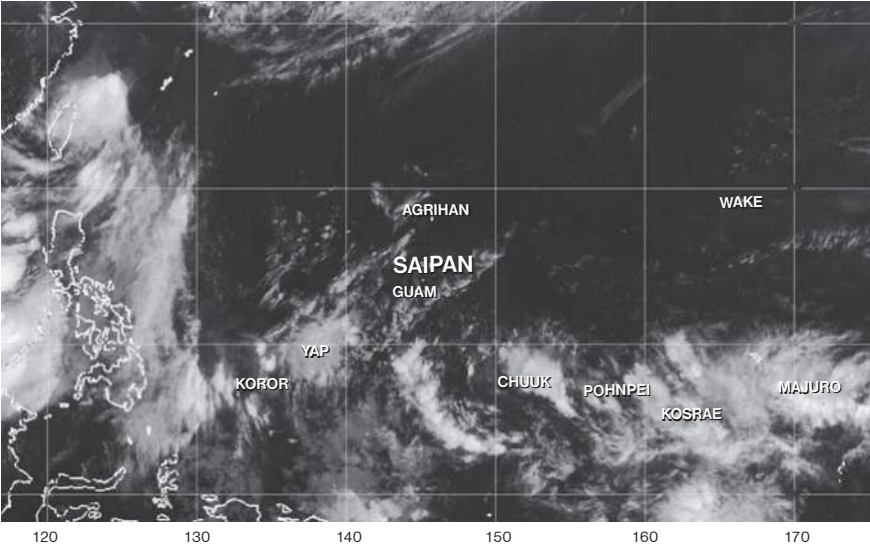
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲56 ▼51
Beijing	Cloudy	▲86 ▼68
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼81
Honolulu	Sunny	▲84 ▼72
London	Rain	▲67 ▼54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲80 ▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲59 ▼37
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼79
New York	Sunny	▲78 ▼60
Osaka	Rain	▲75 ▼67
Paris	Showers	▲64 ▼58
Pusan	Cloudy	▲80 ▼69
Rome	Sunny	▲82 ▼67
Salem	Showers	▲69 ▼50
San Francisco	Sunny	▲64 ▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼70
Tokyo	Rain	▲73 ▼66
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼63

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:31 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
12:55 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
7:53 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low centered west of the Marianas at 18N140E is helping to generate some pockets of isolated thunderstorms and upper-level cloudiness west of the islands from 15N to 19N between 135E and 144E farther to west. The showers and cloud cover flowing into Tropical Storm Leepi (04W) have moved west and north of our area of discussion. A weak westward moving disturbance is generating cloudiness and scattered showers with isolated thunderstorms in the vicinity of Yap and north of Koror from 7N to 12N between 134E and 141E. A monsoon trough is analyzed in the surface wind data that extends from east of Koror and south of Yap near 6N138E to a point approximately southeast of Pohnpei near 4N160E within and north of the trough axis. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen in the satellite imagery from 3N to 10N between 142E and 148E and from the equator to 5N between 153 to 160E south of Chuuk and Pohnpei just north of Chuuk. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from 7N to 10N between 150E and 155E east of this area. Another extensive area of scattered to numerous showers with isolated thunderstorms exist primarily due to trade-wind convergence within the ITCZ from 2N to 10N between 160E and east of the dateline. This area include portions of Pohnpei state, Kosrae, and most of the Marshalls south of 10N.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:28 PM	3:13 AM
Saturday	5:31 PM	4:11 AM
Sunday	6:35 PM	5:14 AM
Monday	7:35 PM	6:19 AM
Tuesday	8:32 PM	7:24 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN** Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.
■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily	UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)				KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7	SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)				VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN			
XF1734	4:15pm	10:30pm	4 Every other week eff May 16	XF1733	11:20am	3:25pm	4 Every other week eff May 16
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM	UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 400				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Pay attention to the person behind the curtain

I heard the news today, oh boy! It was about our local college, again. Yeah, the same one that seems to always gets itself in hot water, sometimes scalding hot, for whatever reason or reasons, and then, miracle of miracles!, always seems to pull itself out, if even barely. A magical place, that NMC.

And now, more magic has been performed at our island's only place of higher education—that being the recent vanishing act involving two of the college's employees. But this act of wizardry is not a new one; it's the same old song and dance that has been performed so many times over the past few years that it seems most of us are yawning. We've seen this hocus-pocus act so much recently that maybe Saipan's collective mind is paying no mind. But it should, very closely.

I remember when I saw this magic for the first time. I remember it well because I was the wizard. Or should I say that I was the main performer; there were two others assisting in the act: the dean of Academic Programs & Services and the then president of NMC. And I couldn't perform the magic without them.

Word of warning! I am about to let you in on the secret of how this magic works. So if you don't want me to spoil the illusion, then I suggest you close your eyes during this next paragraph.

The basic instruments needed are a contractual clause stating that an employee's contract can be non-renewed *without cause*, an employee's signature on that contract, and a Board of Regents non-renewal of contract policy without any check-and-balance procedures. When I was performing this act of prestidigitation, I also needed evidence—hard evidence with documented proof—that an employee was in non-compliance with his or her contract. This evidence was required from me by my co-performers: the dean and the president, who in their wisdom recognized that the BOR non-renewal policy, without any set check-and-balance procedures, could easily be abused, such as when personalities

clash between supervisor and subordinate. There were other ingredients that were essential to this magic: an attempt at corrective action was required, along with the consideration that a mid-semester termination could be detrimental to students, and a termination showing up on an ex-employee's file might be detrimental to the ex-employee's future chances of employment elsewhere. These were considered before a final decision was made.

Okay, you can open your eyes now.

That was how the magic used to be performed. Now it appears that the latest wizards are performing using only the basic instruments and are leaving out the wisdom, evidence, consideration, and corrective action. There was even a past wizard—an ex-president no less (and without an assistant or a net)—who used the vanishing act on a number of employees over a very short period of time (folks were disappearing left and right, you could almost see the pixy dust flying and the smoke rising). It now appears that the proverbial genie is out of the bottle. The fact is that the BOR non-renewal of contract policy requires NO evidence of misconduct, and it may be why the policy has been used on quite a number of occasions in the past two or three years as a quiet, non-messy way to get rid of undesirables. But, undesirable to whom?

In a recent news article, a member of the NMC Board of Regents stated that the BOR would not get involved in the contract non-renewal of the two NMC's employees. The reasons had something to do with an accreditation issue and that they wished to steer clear of involvement in administrative decisions. But I am compelled to ask, as I think all of us should ask, why shouldn't the Board of Regents—who are the sole approver, and thus owner, of its policies—check into whether its policy of contract non-renewal is being abused and, whether

it is or not, put into place checks-and-balances in the form of procedures that will guarantee against abuse? Maybe in this case there has been no abuse—I'm not privy to the underlying causes or related goings-on behind the curtain. But what if there is? We have—all of us who were here between two and three years ago—witnessed at least one case of its abuse when an ex-president used the bare-bones non-renewal disappearing act on a respected faculty member. This faculty member successfully countered the magic (with the assistance of a lawyer and a petition). Others who were non-renewed didn't fight it, for various reasons, but mainly because...well, a signature on a contract is some very strong magic.

So, to put it all in a nutshell: a non-renewal of contract requires no evidence of contract non-compliance or anything else. So, why non-renew if the employee has not only been in compliance with her/his contract, performed duties and responsibilities well, and was also in a position that is ongoing and necessary to the proper function of our college? Yes, NMC could find another to fill the position but that is easier said than done; with our immigration restrictions, and being thousands of miles from the mainland and at the same time strapped for cash. And—let's be real here—the issue regarding filling necessary positions with someone unqualified is not new at NMC; nor should we overlook the fact that graduation rates are primarily a function of initial enrollment numbers, with other factors being secondary.

Something in the air smells fishy and it's not because we're surrounded by water. They say (whoever "they" are) that for wickedness to triumph all it takes is for the good to do nothing. I think it's time for the genie to be put back into the bottle.

Glen D. Keaton
San Vicente, Saipan

No to TES closure

There are currently 178 little Tatagas at Tanapag Elementary School and that's not including Head Start and kindergarten. Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School has over 200 students. They may have the advantage over us in numbers but their campus is not equipped to handle 400-plus students, which Tanapag Elementary School could easily hold. There are no gates protecting the children and it's too close to the water that a child without proper care and supervision could eas-

ily run away and drown.

With our declining economy, our community is going through so much hardship and most parents would have to walk their children to school for classes, conferences, or programs. Taking away our elementary school is like destroying a part of our community. This school means more to us than just a place that you go to learn. It's where we build our childhood memories, where we are encouraged

to grow and be independent. It's a place that we want to share with our children as they are growing. We ask that you please reconsider this plan to close Tanapag Elementary School, if not for our happiness, then at least for a safer environment.

Magdalen Rit Ruak Santos
3rd grade, Tanapag Elementary School



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- ✓ Utilizes college preparatory curricula for worldwide universities and colleges
- ✓ Bible-based character training
- ✓ Participates in island/regional wide academic competitions
- ✓ Excellent sports program
- ✓ Accredited by Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) from Kindergarten to 12th grades
- ✓ **NEW!!!** This year GCA is pleased to offer a **K-3 Program**.

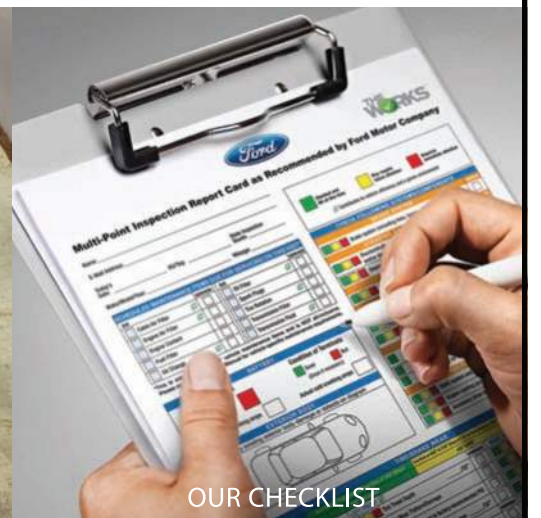
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Booya's owners Joseph Santos, seating second left, and Ken Kalen, seating right, join staff and Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve volunteers Rose Igitol and Janice Tenorio after signing a statement of support for ESGR at the barbecue restaurant in Garapan yesterday.

Santos declares support for ESGR

Joseph Santos, a businessman who owns or co-owns several businesses on Saipan and Guam, yesterday signed a statement of support to the tenets of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

ESGR is a Department of Defense volunteer organization tasked to educate employers and service members about their rights and responsibilities, especially during times of deployment.

Volunteer Rose Igitol said that with Santos and Booya's Local Barbecue co-owner Ken Kalen's signing of an ESGR statement of support, they have now "publicly declared their support for their employees' military service."

She added that Booya's and Santos' other companies—St. Michael's Ambulance Service on Saipan and St. Joseph's Ambulance Service in Guam—will be entered into ESGR's national database as "most supportive" employers and eventually will be recognized nationwide.

Santos said the military is very close to his heart, having been a former U.S. Navy serviceman.

The former Navy medic said he's more than happy to be a part of ESGR and specially supports one of the tenets of the volunteer organization, which assures employees who are called up that they will get their jobs back once their tour of duty ends.

He said he has about 40 employees on Saipan and in Guam, with 10 of them part of the U.S. Armed Forces.

For 20-year-old Svetlana Del Rosario, Santos' support for

ESGR and U.S. troops is very heartwarming. Del Rosario's husband is Christopher Del Rosario and was recently deployed alongside other CNMI soldiers with the Guam Army National Guard's 1st Battalion 294th Infantry Regiment in Afghanistan. Christopher was working at Hyatt Regency Saipan prior to his deployment.

"I'm always humbled and appreciative of companies such as Booya's and St. Michael's that wholeheartedly come out in support of our troops, whether they are deployed or not," said Igitol.

CNMI Family Readiness Group coordinator Marie Salas-Igitol also said she is grateful for companies that have signed the ESGR statement of support because it means a lot to servicemen and their families.

Salas-Igitol is the wife of Spc. Ivan M. Igitol and the mother of Spc. Brittney S. Igitol, whom are both Guard members and are currently deployed in Afghanistan.

An agency under the U.S. Department of Defense, ESGR was established on June 22, 1972, by then President Richard Nixon in preparation for the eventual elimination of the military draft.

It serves as the bridge that links employers to understanding the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act or USERRA, the law that protects these rights and privileges of National Guard and Reserve employees as well as fosters "a culture of support" for the military. *(Saipan Tribune)*

HEALTH CARE IMPACT TAX BILL (HB 18-34) & NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs)

FACT #1

HB 18-34 aims to increase the sin tax on tobacco and alcohol and introduce a sin tax on sugar-sweetened beverages (SSB); the most critical risks associated with NCDs.

FACT #2

About 7 out of 10 deaths in the CNMI are due to NCDs (i.e. heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes).

FACT #3

CHC reported a 126% (N=34) increase in newly registered dialysis patients in 2012 compared to 2011 (N=27).

FACT #4

PSS reported in 2013 that 57% of students are at risk of obesity.

FACT #5

The 2011 CNMI Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) revealed current alcohol use among high school students have increased to 41.4%. - National Institute of Health

FACT #6

Tobacco abuse is the single most critical risk factor related to the leading chronic diseases in the CNMI—cancer, heart disease, and emphysema.

FACT #7

Children born in the year 2000s will be the "first generation who would die before their parents due to NCDs."

FACT #8

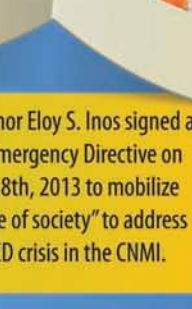
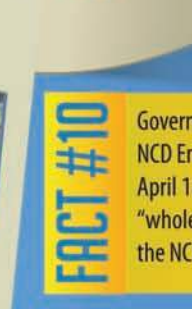
Evidence shows that a higher tax is the most effective way to reduce use of the sin tax products, especially among the youth and the poor.

FACT #9

HB18-34 aims to: 1) Reduce use and limit access of unhealthy products; and 2) Fund NCD prevention, medical care cost and MPLT loan.

FACT #10

Governor Eloy S. Inos signed a NCD Emergency Directive on April 18th, 2013 to mobilize "whole of society" to address the NCD crisis in the CNMI.



*More facts and data sources are available by emailing: chcpubhealth@gmail.com.
CHCC Division of Public Health Services HB18-34 & NCDs Fact Sheet Version 2 (05/23/13)

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **June 24**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **June 24**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE

You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **June 24**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations — up to 4:00pm
Chalan Lamlau — up to 6:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office — up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza — up to 6:00pm
Online payment — up to 9:00pm

Anti-terrorism training held in the CNMI, Guam

NMC English and Math placement test schedule

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting the English and Math placement tests on the following dates:

- June 24 (Monday): 10am, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- June 25 (Tuesday): 1pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- June 26 (Wednesday): 1pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 16 (Tuesday): 9am, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 16 (Tuesday): 2pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 17 (Wednesday): 1pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 23 (Tuesday): 10am, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 25 (Thursday): 1pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- July 30 (Tuesday): 9am, Testing Center (Bldg. I)
- Aug. 1 (Thursday): 1pm, Testing Center (Bldg. I)

Those who wish to take courses at NMC must take the placement tests. The deadline to apply for admission for NMC's fall 2013 semester is July 31, 2013.

Before taking a placement test, individuals must first fill out a Placement Request Form at the Office of Admissions and Records (Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm) and pay the \$25 fee for each placement test at the NMC Cashier (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4pm). Payment for the admission application fee will cover the English placement test fee. Students will not be allowed to take the placement tests without their processed Placement Request Form and a valid photo I.D. (driver's license, passport or school I.D.).

Also, those planning on taking the placement test are highly encouraged to make seating arrangements prior to the test date by contacting Daniel Kintol at the Testing Center in Building I at 234-5498 Ext. 1350 or be emailing danielk@nmcnet.edu.

Note that part of the English placement test is computer-based when testing on Listening, Reading and Grammar, and the final part of the test requires a handwritten essay on a provided topic. Moreover, the math placement test is entirely computer-based with pencils and scratch paper provided at the Testing Center. Also, the use of approved types of calculators is allowed during the math placement test (contact Kintol to find out if your calculator may be used).

For more information or to make arrangements regarding the placement tests, contact Kintol at the Testing Center in Building I at 234-5498 Ext. 1350 or by emailing danielk@nmcnet.edu. For additional information about placement tests and NMC's fall 2013 semester, log on to nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

After a year of planning, the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training Program was very well-received in the Marianas, according to Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The program was presented by the U.S. Department of Jus-

tice's Bureau of Justice Assistance Program, U.S. Attorney's Office for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, the Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense, the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Joint Task Force-Homeland Defense.

Two instructors, Richard Marquise and William Dyson from the Institute for Intergovernmental Research, provided the SLATT workshops to various law enforcement, hotel and private security, military anti-terrorism personnel and other community leaders. Topics discussed dealt with international

terrorism, domestic terrorism, suspicious activity reporting and other national and regional security concerns.

On Saipan, the specialized workshop on April 25, 2013, was composed of 147 participants from different state and federal agencies in the CNMI. An additional workshop was held on

April 26, 2013, where 32 individuals from various law enforcement agencies were invited back to participate in SLATT Train-the-Trainer course. This was the first time the SLATT Program was held in the CNMI.

The SLATT Program was also conducted in Guam on April 23-24, 2013. (USAO)

Baba B in two-day concert at PIC

Island reggae musician Baba B is back on Saipan and will be performing in a two-day concert at Pacific Islands Club Saipan in celebration of MarPac Distributors' 40th year anniversary in the Commonwealth.

MarPac's Vynicia Seman said they chose Baba B to perform as a tribute to their customers for patronizing their products the past two decades because of the obvious pull of the island reggae genre in the CNMI.

It also doesn't hurt that Baba B has quite a following on the islands, according to MarPac consumer manager Tom Basa, himself a big fan of the Hawaiian musical artist. He said Baba B also performed on Saipan a couple of years back.

"Baba B Live on Saipan" will be held on Sunday, June 23, starting at 2:30pm and Monday, June 24, starting at 6pm at PIC Beachside. Tickets are \$15.

Baba B shot to island reggae fame in 1997 with his release of his debut album "Big Boy In Love." He also enjoyed similar

success with his second album "Local Boy" in 1999.

Since then he has churned out island reggae hits not only to the



Island reggae musician Baba B.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

delight of his fans in Hawaii but also across the Pacific, where the genre is king.

He took a brief break from touring before returning early this year and has recently performed around Las Vegas, California, and other states including his home island of Hawaii.

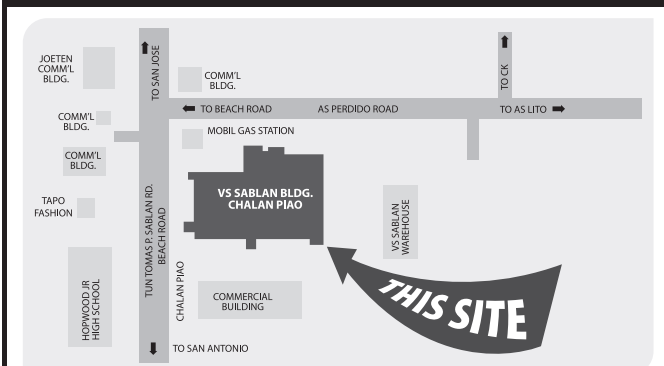
Last month, MarPac brought to Saipan standup comic Ron Josol for a one-night comedy

show at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall.

It was a rip-roaring success with the full house laughing their hearts out at Josol's self-deprecating humor and sometimes raunchy material.

Tickets for "Baba B Live on Saipan" are available at MarPac, Shell gas stations, Docomo Pacific, Hertz Rent-A-Car, IP&E, and at PIC. (Saipan Tribune)

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Congressional Dining Services celebrates Guam Week



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chris Bejado, left, owner of PROA Restaurant, joins Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) and restaurant associates chef Michael Blackburn, right, in the Members' Dining Room kitchen to view the preparation of dishes from the special Guam lunch menu. Inset shows one of the prepared dishes.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) issued the following statement yesterday on the celebration of Guam Week in the U.S. Capitol's Members' Dining Room. This is the second year the Members' Dining Room has created a menu showcasing several dishes from Guam.

Bordallo invited Chris Bejado, owner of PROA Restaurant and recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2013 Small Business Person of the Year Award for Guam, to join her for lunch. Bejado and his family are currently in town visiting family and to celebrate Small Business Week.

This culinary spotlight on Guam is a part of the "Celebrate America" theme in the Members' Dining Room that showcases classic dishes from every state and territory. The three-course Guam menu, which is available until today, June 21, includes shrimp patties, pork adobo with rice, and latiya for dessert. Recipes for the menu were pulled from the 1988 re-

vised edition of *Leblon Finatnas Para Guam*, published by Y Inetnon Famalaoan.

"I am pleased that the Members' Dining Room is once again highlighting some of our classic dishes from Guam," said Bordallo. "The chef and his staff presented a good sample of our island's cuisine, which other Members of Congress and their guests will be able to try throughout the remainder of the week. I also appreciated having PROA Restaurant owner, Chris Bejado, as my guest; he has worked in the hospitality industry for many years and his successful restaurants promote the Hafa Adai spirit and sustainability through locally-sourced ingredients."

Bejado said: "We enjoyed having lunch with Congresswoman Bordallo in the Members' Dining Room. Chef Michael Blackburn made a great attempt to showcase our food for all who wish to experience it. The pork adobo was nicely cooked and made me feel right at home." (PR)

Limtiaco keynotes naturalization rites on Saipan

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, was invited by Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona of the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands to be the keynote speaker at the naturalization ceremony held on April 22, 2013, in the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, on Saipan.

Fifteen individuals from several countries, including the Philippines and Thailand, were newly sworn as United States citizens. The naturalization cer-

emony was held as part of the events to commemorate Law Week 2013.

In her address and congratulatory remarks to the newly sworn U.S. citizens, Limtiaco stated: "...the year 2013 signifies the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. called upon our country to live up to our promise of equality for all. The United States Department of Justice,



Limtiaco

Civil Rights Division, works to uphold and protect the civil rights and constitutional rights of all Americans, particularly of the most vulnerable members of our society. It enforces federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of national origin, race, color, sex, disability, religion, and familial status.

"Justice is only served when it is practiced fairly and evenly. Citizens need to

know that they will be afforded justice without distinction as to national origin, race, color, creed, gender, or status; and that the same rules apply for every citizen no matter of stature or influence in the community. We must continue to draw strength from our diversity as a nation, including those of different races, ethnicities, cultures and religions, as it is our diversity as a people and the strength that we gain from it that contributes to our resiliency as a nation during our most challenging times," said Limtiaco. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

for the
Saipan International Airport Runway 25 PAPI/REIL Installation
Project No. CPA-SA-001-11

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management services for the Saipan International Airport Runway 25 PAPI/REIL Installation, Project No. CPA-SA-001-11, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

- Overall construction management experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Specialized experience and technical competence in the type of work required and previous experience with projects similar in scope;
- Key personnel's professional qualifications, experience and availability for the proposed services; their reputation and professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies and procedures;
- Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns;
- Past performance on contracts including cost control, quality of work and current workload and demonstrated ability to meet schedules and deadlines;
- Firms must have a valid CNMI Business License and the ability to perform the construction management activities in the CNMI.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications for each service offered no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 5, 2013.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to : Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ BENIGNO M. SABLAN
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: June 18, 2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ROOF LEAK REPAIRS
PROJECT NO. CPA-RA-003-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for repairs of the leaks on the roof of the Rota International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These services will include an assessment of the roof to determine the cause of the leaking problem and provide plans, specifications and estimates for the anticipated repair work and improvements.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

- Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- A/E Design experience related to CPA projects funded in whole or in part by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and/or CPA;
- Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA and airport projects;
- The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for airport projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 5, 2013.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to : Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ BENIGNO M. SABLAN
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: June 18, 2013



Procurement And Supply CNMI Government



INVITATION TO BID

2013-CDA-01-ITB

Submission & Opening Date: **July 8, 2013** Time: **10:00 a.m.**

"SUPPLY OF APPLE IPADS MD512LL/A, BLUETOOTH KEYBOARDS and CASES FOR CDA"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2013-CDA-02-RFP

Submission Date: **July 8, 2013**

Time: **10:00 a.m.**

"SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF COMPUTERS FOR CDA"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director P&S

Oceanside Bar n' Grill, in cooperation with Pacific Trading Co., Titan Imports, and L&Q Corp., has launched a series of promotions and additional items on its menu that make this Garapan landmark the most happening sports bar and restaurant this side of the islands.

According to owner Marilyn Ronquillo, they came up with themes for each day of the week to give their customers varied experiences each time they visit Oceanside.

Mondays are called "Cool Down Mondays," with a laidback vibe that's perfect to kick off the week. Better yet, buy two of any Malibu or Kahlua mix and get one free!

Oceanside brings you the popular buck-a-taco on Tuesdays during its "Mexican Taco Nights," when dollar tacos are available all night. As an added attraction, any Tarantula or Tequila Rose flavors will be \$3 a shot or \$4 for margaritas.

For whiskey lovers out there, Chivas Regal takes center stage on Wednesday nights, with shots at only \$4 all night.

Aspiring singers would love Thursday nights, with Oceanside staging its competitive Karaoke Night, during which the top scorer will get a \$30 bar tab on San Miguel Beer products. The second top scorer won't go home empty-handed either, as he or she will get one free bucket of San Miguel Beer. For those who just want to sit back and relax, San Miguel Beer products will be on specials at five bottles for just \$15, plus chasers. To make it worth your while, anyone can join the karaoke contest and there is no entry fee.

Women get the floor on Friday nights, with Ladies Night this entire month of June and featuring the French wine brand Barton and Guestier, X Rated Fusion Liqueur, and Cinzano (Asti). A glass of Barton and Guestier will just be \$5 while a bottle is just \$25. Shots of the X Rated Fusion Liqueur are just \$3, while a Bubbly X cocktail will just be \$4. All product prices are for the entire night. Even better, each purchase of the promo products will get a ticket for a chance to win gift certificates from I Love Saipan, Mandi Spa, and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Oceanside also has something for beer lovers, with Heinekin at \$3.50 only every Friday this month.

Ronquillo said that they are still working on a promo for Saturday night but, in the meantime, Friday and Saturday nights feature live entertainment or DJs



Oceanside Bar n' Grill's Ladies Night this month of June features the French wine brand Barton and Guestier, X Rated Fusion Liqueur, and Cinzano (Asti).

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Oceanside Bar n' Grill mixes it up for a week of fun

playing house party mixes for anyone in the mood to shake that bootie.

As if those are not enough, Oceanside Bar n' Grill also has Happy Hour everyday from 5pm to 8pm, with domestic beers at a bargain basement price of just \$3 and imported beers/cocktails at just \$4. This month, they offer two especially concocted summer special drinks called Candy Crush and O'side Blue Sapphire. Both were featured at the recent Bacardi bartending competition.

For those in the mood for appetizers or even a full on dinner, Oceanside Bar n' Grill has something new on its menu—sizzling plates that are as delicious as they are easy on the wallet. The Sizzling Tofu is just \$7.95 a plate, the Sizzling Chicken is just \$8.95 a plate, and the Sizzling Squid is just \$9.95 a plate. Better yet, go to Oceanside during Happy Hour as sizzling plates are just \$5 a plate. After 8pm, the price goes back to its regular rate. These menu items are in addition to Oceanside's juicy

steaks made from Certified Angus Beef.

Want to help a good cause? Ronquillo said that Oceanside Bar n' Grill will be hosting on June 29, Saturday, a fundraiser for the Department of Homeland Security's community outreach. A ticket costs just \$15 and gets you one free drink. The fundraiser is from 7pm to 10 pm and will feature free chasers, a raffle, and live entertainment. To buy tickets, call Oceanside at 285-5090 or call Dora

FOR RESERVATIONS
Call 285-5090



This month's Happy Hour features two summer special drinks called Candy Crush, right, and O'side Blue Sapphire, left.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Oceanside Bar n' Grill's Sizzling Chicken.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

at (671) 988-4587 or Sean White at 287-9686.

Oceanside will be the venue for another fundraiser on July 6, from 7pm to 10pm for CNMI Fire & EMS Association. The organization will be hosting a Firefighters Ball to honor these local heroes. Buy your ticket for \$20 and get two free drinks and more. For more information, contact Jack Camacho at 287-3467 or EMS office at 664-9134. To buy tickets, contact above or Oceanside at 285-5090.

Oceanside Bar n' Grill is

also available for private functions such as birthday and Christmas parties, fundraisers, showers, school events, and end-of-the school-year activities. It has capacious room enough for a large number of people, a full bar, and features electronic dartboards and a billiards table. Just call Ronquillo at 285-5090.

Oceanside, which used to be the former The Flair Bar, is located along Beach Road in Garapan and is open Monday to Thursday from 5pm to 12am and Friday to Saturday from 5pm to 2am. It is closed on Sundays. For reservations, call 285-5090.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-13-2321

Closing Date: June 21, 2013

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. — 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com. Interested proposers are invited to attend a pre-proposal meeting on Friday May 31, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the MVA conference room in San Jose, Saipan.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP13-OVR-125

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 11, 2013

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES, A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-SUBMISSION ORIENTATION THIS PROJECT WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, NAVY HILL, SAIPAN AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME, JUNE 26, 2013.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP ARE DUE AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 01, 2013. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ MARGARITA R. OLOPAI-TAITANO
DIRECTOR, OVR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA-130

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 02, 2013

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"JANITORIAL AND CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/s/ THOMAS J. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-DPL-128

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 02, 2013

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"ANNUAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS SAIPAN, TINIAN AND ROTA"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ PEDRO A. TENORIO
ACTING SECRETARY OF DPL

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D' TORRES BUILDING. GARAPAN
P.O. Box 504340
SAIPAN, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

<p><small>BANK OF SAIPAN, INC.,</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Plaintiff,</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>v.</small></p> <p><small>ANTONIO GUSMAN ADRIANO and MARGARITA FLORES CAMACHO fka MARGARITA C. ADRIANO,</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Defendants.</small></p>	<p><small>) CIVIL ACTION</small></p> <p><small>) NO.: 12-0265</small></p> <p><small>) NOTICE OF</small></p> <p><small>) FORECLOSURE</small></p> <p><small>) SALE</small></p>
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 21, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right and interests of Defendants in and to the following real property:

Lot No. 001 T 54, containing an area of 1,723 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 T 00.

1. **Date, Time and Place of Sale.** The sale is open to the general public (including the Defendant), and will be held on Friday, July 26, 2013, at the hour of 11:15 a.m. at the entrance to the Tinian Superior Court, Tinian, CNMI. Registration for the auction sale will begin at 11:00 a.m.

2. **Change of Terms and Conditions.** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 7th day of June, 2013.

/s/ MICHELLE W. BREL, Auctioneer
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan
Tel: (670) 235-8060
Fax: (670) 235-8070
E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.com
2nd Publication

Court grants Millard's personal bankruptcy application

By MICHAEL KLEIN
CAYCOMPASS.COM

The founder and former chief executive of computer retail chain ComputerLand, William H. Millard, is undergoing personal bankruptcy proceedings in the Cayman Islands and the United States.

Millard and his wife, Patricia, obtained bankruptcy protection from the Cayman Islands Grand Court on June 3, 2013, in an effort to address a tax judgment alleging they owe the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands \$118 million in unpaid taxes and interest.

The government of the CNMI claims Millard, once listed as one of the richest people in the U.S., did not pay sufficient tax

on the sale of his business in 1987, when he was a resident of the Northern Mariana Islands.

In 1994, the government of the Northern Mariana Islands obtained from its local courts tax judgments against the couple. Since 2011, it attempted to enforce these judgments through U.S. courts.

The Millards, who left Saipan in 1990, say they were not aware of the tax judgments against them until 2011.

"Had we been aware of the [tax enforcement] proceedings we would have contested them," Millard said in documents filed with the New York Bankruptcy Court. "Despite our efforts to challenge the default judgments there has not yet been any determination on

the merits as to whether they are valid."

There are now seven separate enforcement proceedings pending in Florida and New York, which the Millards are defending.

Court documents state the couple no longer has sufficient cash to pay for the accrued legal expenses. As a result, the pair has sought bankruptcy protection from the Cayman courts and are asking the New York court to protect their U.S. assets and stay U.S. court cases pending the Cayman Islands bankruptcy proceeding.

In 2011, U.S. media reported that Millard had allegedly disappeared in 1990 and that the "tax fugitive" been "tracked down" in the Cayman Islands

with "help from a New York law firm and a small army of private investigators" and Mrs. Millard, now 80 and 76 years old, moved to Cayman directly from Saipan more than 20 years ago. In July 2010, the Caymanian Compass published an article about the LifeStar Institute, a foundation launched and funded by Millard, which described him as a "long-time Cayman resident."

The ComputerLand retail chain founder explained in the New York court documents that he moved with his wife to the CNMI in 1986 partly to take advantage of the Northern Mariana Territorial Income Tax Rebate, a tax incentive designed to entice U.S. citizens to become residents of the islands.

Millard stated he sold shares in his company in September 1987 for \$76.8 million and that the couple had paid \$4.7 million in taxes on the capital gains.

One and a half years later, the Commonwealth government claimed the tax payment was deficient and placed a lien on the assets and bank accounts of the Millards on the islands. According to Millard, his lawyer subsequently successfully challenged the lien and explained why no additional tax was due.

"And as of 1990, as far as I am aware, the CNMI did not disagree with our position and had reversed its earlier stance," Millard said.

The Millards claim that they left Saipan in 1990 after their outspoken criticism of local corruption and their assistance to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the matter had led to death threats against them.

"It did not take long for us to become aware of extensive corruption by public servants of the CNMI. We became vocal opponents to the corruption and we were contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to assist them with its investigation into corruption within the CNMI government," Millard said in the court documents. "We cooperated with the FBI and this became public information both in the CNMI and in the United States; as a result of media reports confirming my assistance to the FBI, and willingness to testify before a grand jury, we became subject to significant harassment and threats of violence."

The default judgments entered against the Millards for US\$36.6 million have accrued

to a total, including interest, of \$118 million for the couple. If this principal liability is taken into account, the Millards say they are insolvent in that their net worth is less than the total debt allegedly owed.

The bulk of their assets consists of shares in Cayman Islands-based investment holding companies. In addition to real estate in Cayman and Florida the Millards also have assets in Belgium and Switzerland, the court filings show.

The purpose of the bankruptcy application in Cayman is to present a Chapter 15 bankruptcy petition to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court to seek a temporary stay of the enforcement proceedings there.

The Grand Court granted the petition and made an absolute bankruptcy order upon which the Millards' assets are vested in the trustee in bankruptcy. The court appointed Ken Kryss and Margot MacInnis as the trustee's agents. They have already been appointed as the joint voluntary liquidators of the Millards' investment holding companies.

The official liquidators of the companies will realise some assets and declare a dividend of 100 cents in the dollar to ordinary creditors. The government of the Marianas will not be able to submit a proof of debt because foreign tax judgments are not enforceable in the Cayman Islands, the judgment said.

"What, if any, action should be taken in respect of any property of the debtors located in the United States is a matter in respect of which I am not required to make any decision today," Jones wrote.



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP13-DPL-127



SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 10, 2013

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"LONG-TERM LEASE FOR PUBLIC LANDS IN MARPI AND SAN ANTONIO, SAIPAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS"

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercially developing public land as indicated below:

1. Lot Number 003 A 11, containing an area of approximately 49,500 square meters.
2. Lot Number 003 A 20, containing an area of approximately 49,505 square meters.
3. Lot Number 004 I 40, containing an area of approximately 40,827 square meters

Lots #1 & #2 are contiguous to each other and have a combined total area of 99,005 square meters, more or less, and are located in Marpi, Saipan, CNMI. Proposers have the option to select only one (1) lot, or combined both lots to prepare their proposal. Lot number 004 I 40 is located in San Antonio, Saipan

The Scope of Work, proposal instructions, maps, and other documents to complete the RFP will be available and may be picked up at the Department of Public Lands Office, located at the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Dandan, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Interested proposers from overseas may request the required documents by mail. A non-refundable application fee of **Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (US \$3,500.00)** is required to be paid at the time of issuance of the Scope of Work of the RFP and related documents. Payment must be by certified or cashier's check and made payable to: Department of Public Lands.

Also, request by mail for the RFP documents must be accompanied by payment of the non-refundable fee in certified or cashier's check, payable to the Department of Public Lands. Payment by mail should be sent to: Department of Public Lands, P.O. Box 500380, Saipan, MP 96950.

The RFP packet issued to proposers will be numbered for identification and shall become the property of the prospective companies or individuals, and may not be copied for distribution to other interested parties. Only those interested proposers that inquired and have paid the application fee directly to Department of Public Lands (DPL) will be issued the official RFP from DPL.

Questions regarding this project must be received **no later than the close of business, June 28, 2013** and must be submitted in writing to Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio, Acting Secretary of DPL at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
2ND Floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
Telephone numbers: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: pete.tenorio@dpl.gov.mp; rachel@dpl.gov.mp; prasa@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

DPL reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects if it finds that to do so is in the best interest of the public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/S/ PEDRO A. TENORIO
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

KANOA RESORT TEAM MEMBERS

WANTED:

Kanoa Adventure Zone TEAM MEMBERS

*come be a part of the newest and
funnest activities on the Island.*

JOIN THE TEAM

*Water park experience a plus but not
required. We are looking for friendly,
energetic and fun TEAM MEMBERS to
help our guests enjoy their Saipan
experience. Please contact Kanoa
Resort HR for further details.
Be part of the TEAM at Kanoa Resort.*

Please Contact
234-6601 ext. 620/621


Kanoa Resort
Saipan

Business

5 points to know about the health care overhaul

By **TOM MURPHY**
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Still a little hazy about the health care overhaul? You have plenty of company.

About half the people surveyed earlier this spring by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation felt they didn't have enough information to understand how the law will affect their family. Among those with an annual household income of less than \$30,000, some 30 percent thought the law had been repealed by Congress or the Supreme Court.

That's the low-income demographic the law is designed to help the most as it extends insurance coverage to millions of uninsured people.

With those results in mind, here are five key points everyone should know about the overhaul, heading into this fall and 2014, when major changes start to unfold.

1 THE LAW IS IN EFFECT

Congress passed President Barack Obama's health care law in March 2010, and the overhaul has since survived 37 attempts by Republicans in the House of Representatives to eliminate, defund or partly scale it back.

The law, known as the Affordable Care Act or ACA, also survived a more substantial test last year when the Supreme Court upheld its constitutionality. However, the court's ruling

gave states the right to decide whether to expand Medicaid, the state-and-federally funded program that covers the needy and disabled people. Medicaid plays a key role in the ACA's plan to provide insurance coverage to more Americans.

2 YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE COVERAGE

The overhaul mandates that, starting next year, most U.S. citizens and legal residents obtain coverage or pay a penalty. Some exemptions have been carved out for groups that include Indian tribe members, prisoners and individuals who belong to health care sharing ministries.

The annual penalty starts at \$95 per adult, or 1 percent of family income - whichever is greater - and then rises over the next few years.

3 MAJOR MILESTONES ARE LOOMING

Next year, the ACA will take two major steps toward its goal of providing more individuals with insurance coverage.

Medicaid will be expanded in states that allow it, and many people will be able to buy coverage using income-based tax credits.

These tax credits, or subsidies, are reserved for people who can't get health insurance through an employer and who don't qualify for Medicaid, Medicare or military-based coverage.

State-based benefits exchanges will debut in October and they will enable consumers to go online to compare 2014 coverage terms and prices and then use tax credits, if they qualify, to buy a policy.

4 FINANCIAL HELP EXTENDS TO THE MIDDLE CLASS

The tax credits or subsidies will be available to help individuals and families making up to four times the federal poverty level. For 2013, that equates to an income of \$94,200 for a family of four in all states except Alaska and Hawaii.

The tax credits will be doled out on a sliding scale. That means individuals with incomes closer to the poverty guideline will receive bigger credits.

These credits won't lower premiums, but they can ease the insurance bill depending on a person's income. For instance, a 30-year-old with an income of \$30,000, who doesn't smoke or have kids, could receive a tax credit worth more than \$900. That person might then have to pay \$1,925 for insurance that would provide the minimum level of coverage required under the overhaul. That's according to a subsidy calculator designed by Kaiser and posted on the foundation's website at <http://kff.org/interactive/subsidy-calculator/>.

Starting next year, the ACA also will help individuals get coverage regardless of their health. Currently, if you already

have a medical condition, insurers can either reject your application or charge a much higher price. Many people with heart trouble or diabetes are unable to find an insurer willing to cover them because of the risk they represent for future claims.

5 INSURANCE PRICES MAY CHANGE

Health insurers are warning that premiums, or the cost of coverage, could soar for some people due to a number of factors. Those include taxes and fees, as well as coverage requirements the law imposes.

The extent of any price hikes will depend on many variables,

such as where people live, their current coverage and health and their age.

Young, healthy people who currently have low-cost coverage may see some of the biggest hikes in part because the law limits the price differences an insurer can charge a person based on age.

Insurers generally charge seniors more because they tend to generate more expensive claims.

The subsidies that individuals start receiving next year will help offset these price hikes. Most who gain coverage in the individual insurance market will have income levels low enough to qualify for some subsidy help,

said Jennifer Tolbert, a health reform expert with Kaiser.

She said that will be especially true for the younger customers who may face the biggest price hikes.

About 149 million individuals have employer-sponsored health coverage in the United States, making it the largest source of coverage. Those who work for big companies may not see a lot of change, at least initially.

The law will add costs like premium taxes to the average worker's insurance bill. But the employer generally pays most of that bill, which means some employees may not notice the additional cost.

Men's Wearhouse ousts founder, pitchman

NEW YORK (AP)—Men's Wearhouse doesn't like the way its founder looks anymore.

The men's clothier said Wednesday that it fired executive chairman and face of the company George Zimmer, 64, who has appeared in many of its TV commercials with the slogan "You're going to like the way you look. I guarantee it."

The company announced the move in a terse statement that gave no reason for the abrupt firing of Zimmer, who built Men's Wearhouse Inc. from one small Texas store



Zimmer

eral months he and the board of directors disagreed about the company's direction.

"Over the last 40 years, I have built The Men's Wearhouse into a multi-billion dollar company with amazing employees and loyal customers who value the products and service they receive at

The Men's Wearhouse," he said in a statement. But he noted that "instead of fostering the kind of dialogue in the boardroom that has, in part, contributed to our success, the board has inappropriately chosen to silence my concerns by terminating me as an executive officer."

The bad blood didn't spook investors, though. Men's Wearhouse shares slipped just 43 cents to close at \$37.04. The stock is still near its 52-week high of \$38.59 and ended Wednesday up about 19 percent since the start of the year.

Beyond creating a successful company, Zimmer is known as something of a cowboy in the

business world.

He brought in spiritual leader Deepak Chopra as a member of the company's board in 2004. He put his fortune to work behind California's failed Proposition 19 in 2010, which would have legalized marijuana in California, where he lived. And Men's Wearhouse didn't conduct criminal background checks on new hires because Zimmer believed that everyone deserves a second chance.

"He's one of a kind," said Richard Jaffe, a Stifel Nicolaus analyst. "He's an entrepreneurial visionary. He made looking terrific available for every man in America."

Through his personal publicist Zimmer declined to comment for this article beyond the written statement. Calls to company executives and board members were immediately referred to a company spokesman, who declined to comment beyond the release.

Jaffe speculated that Zimmer, who handed over his title as CEO to Douglas Ewert in 2011, may have had difficulty letting go of the company's reins.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



Chief Financial Officer

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) is seeking the services of a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO reports to the Chief Executive Officer and has direct responsibility for receipt of all revenues and payment of funds in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. The CFO shall have at least a master in business administration degree and five years of experience in healthcare finances. The Commonwealth is proposing a two-year contract with a salary range of \$100,000 - \$150,000.

The CHCC is located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a United States Insular Area comprised of a group of fourteen islands in Micronesia. The CNMI population (approximately 45,000) is located on the three islands of Saipan (40,000); Tinian (2,500); and Rota (2,500).

CHCC is a newly established entity that was created by the Commonwealth Legislature to provide healthcare services in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Commonwealth Healthcare System consists of public health and behavioral services as well as an 86-bed Medicare-certified acute care hospital on the island of Saipan and clinics on both the islands of Tinian and Rota. In FY 2013, the total operating budget of the CHCC is \$31.5M. CHCC is also responsible for public health and behavioral health programs with an operating budget of about \$10M. Additional information on CHCC operations can be obtained at the website chcc.tipg.net

The CHCC is facing significant financial and operational challenges due to its newly established structure, low-income client base, and challenges of providing medical services that comply with United States healthcare standards in a remote isolated area.

Applicants must submit a CHCC employment application in addition to the provision of a resume. Employment applications can be obtained by contacting Ms. Myrna F. Boyer at myrnaf.boyer@gmail.com. Applications will be considered on an on-going basis and should be submitted to:

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Human Resources Department
Attn. Ms. Myrna F. Boyer
P.O. Box 500409 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Nation

Compromise among senators eyed on border security

WASHINGTON (AP)—After secretive talks, key senators expressed optimism Wednesday night that they were closing in on a bipartisan agreement to toughen the border security requirements in immigration legislation that also offers a path to citizenship to millions living in the country illegally.

Under the emerging compromise, the government would

grant legal status to immigrants living in the United States unlawfully at the same time the additional security was being put into place. Green cards, which signify permanent residency status, would be withheld until the security steps were complete.

If agreed to, the change has the potential to give a powerful boost to the immigration bill

that is at the top of President Barack Obama's second-term domestic agenda.

The developments came as Democrats who met with House Speaker John Boehner during the day quoted him as saying he expects the House to pass its own version of an immigration bill this summer and for Congress to have a final compromise by year's end.

Boehner, R-Ohio, has already said the legislation that goes to the House in the next month or two will not include a pathway to citizenship for those in the United States illegally.

Precise details of the pending agreement in the Senate were unavailable, although the legislation already envisions more border agents; additional fencing along the U.S.-Mexico border; surveillance drones; a requirement for employers to verify the legal status of potential workers; as well as a biometric system to track foreigners who enter and leave the United States at air and seaports and by land.

"Our whole effort has been to build a bipartisan group that will support the bill," said Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., who has not yet stated a position on the legislation. "That's what this is all about, and it's focused on border security."

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., one of the bill's most prominent supporters, said discussions with Republicans "have been really productive. We've made a lot of progress in the last 24 hours. Now we have some vetting to do with our respective allies."

The potential compromise came into focus one day after the Congressional Budget Office jolted lawmakers with an estimate saying that as drafted, the legislation would fail to prevent a

steady increase in the future in the number of residents living in the United States illegally.

The estimate appeared to give added credibility to Republicans who have been pressing Democrats to toughen the border security provisions already written into the bill. Schumer and Sen.

Bob Menendez, D-N.J., met at midday with Hoeven, and Republican Sens. Bob Corker of Tennessee, John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina. The Democrats, McCain and Graham are part of the so-called bipartisan Gang of Eight that drafted the bill.

Former TWA Flight 800 investigators want new probe

MINEOLA, N.Y. (AP)—Former investigators are pushing to reopen the probe into the 1996 crash of TWA Flight 800, saying new evidence points to the often-discounted theory that a missile strike may have downed the jumbo jet.

The New York-to-Paris flight crashed July 17, 1996, minutes after it took off from John F. Kennedy International Airport, killing all 230 people aboard.

The effort to reopen the probe is being made in tandem with the release next month of a documentary that features the testimony of former investigators who raise doubts about the National Transportation Safety Board's conclusion that the crash was caused by a center fuel tank explosion, probably caused by a spark from a short-circuit in the wiring.

"We don't know who fired the missile," said Jim Speer, an accident investigator for the Air Line Pilots Association, one of those seeking a new review of the probe. "But we have a lot

more confidence that it was a missile."

In a petition filed Wednesday seeking to reopen the probe, they say they have "reviewed the FAA radar evidence along with new evidence not available to the NTSB during the official investigation and contend that the NTSB's probable cause determination is erroneous and should be reconsidered and modified accordingly."

Those calling for a review of the investigation include former NTSB accident investigator Hank Hughes and Bob Young, a former senior accident investigator for the now-defunct TWA. Tom Stalcup, a physicist and co-founder of a group called Flight 800 Independent Researchers Organization, also questions the NTSB's original findings and is featured prominently in the documentary, which is slated to air on the 17th anniversary of the crash next month.

The NTSB issued a statement Wednesday saying it was aware of the upcoming documentary.

The crash of Flight 800

Former investigators say there is new evidence to warrant reopening the probe of the 1996 crash of TWA Flight 800 off the coast of Long Island, New York; all 230 on board were killed.

July 16, 1996 Jetliner crashes 13 minutes after takeoff from New York's JFK

July 24 Flight recorders recovered

July 25 Airport security hiked over fears of terrorist activities

Aug. 23 FBI confirms traces of explosives found in wreckage

Sept. 16 Officials dismiss theory that military missile inadvertently hit plane

Oct. 3 Investigators says plane could have been contaminated by bomb-sniffing dogs

Nov. 20 Officials say bomb "less likely" cause

Dec. 3 Investigators say center fuel tank explosion could have come from electrical problem

Jan. 3, 1997 First autopsy reports shows most victims probably died instantly

March 13 Former journalist Pierre Salinger releases video allegedly showing U.S. Navy missiles downing plane; theory later debunked

May 18 Search for jet's debris ends; 95 percent recovered in one of the largest ever diver-assisted salvage operations

July More victims' remains identified using DNA testing; 11 still unidentified; investigators still looking at reconstructed plane

Aug. 23, 2000 National Transportation Safety Board ends probe; says crash occurred because a spark ignited the center fuel tank



DESTRUCTIVE WILDFIRE

Brandy Burton carries her son Caiyleb Lewis, 2, through the rubble of her family's home that was completely destroyed in the Black Forest Fire, Tuesday, June 18, 2013, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Residents were allowed back into the area for a short period of time to view the properties that sustained the most damage from the fire. The Black Forest Fire, the most destructive wildfire in Colorado history, has destroyed 502 homes and charred more than 22 square miles. It was 85 percent contained Tuesday.

Obama making plans to tackle global warming

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is planning a major push using executive powers to tackle the pollution blamed for global warming in an effort to make good on promises he made at the start of his second term. "We know we have to do more—and we will do more," Obama said Wednesday in Berlin.

Obama's senior energy and climate adviser, Heather Zichal, said the plan would boost energy efficiency of ap-

pliances and buildings, plus expand renewable energy. She also said the Environmental Protection Agency was preparing to use its authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate heat-trapping pollution from coal-fired power plants.

"The EPA has been working very hard on rules that focus specifically on greenhouse gases from the coal sector," Zichal said.

Zichal, speaking at a forum hosted by The New Republic

in Washington, said that none of the proposals would require new funding or action from Congress. It has shown no appetite for legislation that would put a price on carbon dioxide after a White House-backed bill to set up a market-based system died in Obama's first term with Democrats in charge.

The plan, with details expected to be revealed in coming weeks, comes as Obama has been under increasing pressure from environmental groups and

lawmakers from states harmed by Superstorm Sandy to cut pollution from existing power plants, the largest source of climate-altering gases. Several major environmental groups and states have threatened to sue the administration to force cuts to power plant emissions. And just last week, former Vice President Al Gore, a prominent climate activist and fellow Democrat, pointedly called on Obama to go beyond "great words" to "great actions."

ACROSS THE NATION

FBI ends Michigan search for Hoffa's remains

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—Beneath a swimming pool, under a horse farm and now a weed-grown field north of Detroit. For at least the third time in a decade, FBI agents grabbed shovels and combed through dirt and mud in the search for Jimmy Hoffa's remains or clues to the disappearance of the former Teamsters boss. Once again, the search was futile. "Certainly, we're disappointed," Detroit FBI chief Robert Foley told reporters Wednesday as federal and local authorities wrapped up another

excavation that failed to turn up anything that could be linked to Hoffa, who has been missing since 1975. Many people interested in the mystery assume Hoffa ran afoul of the mob and was whacked.

4 shot, 3 dead at Kentucky condo shooting

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Three people were shot to death and a fourth was critically injured Wednesday at a condominium building in Louisville, Ky., and police are saying the shootings appear to be domestic-related. The fourth shooting victim was taken to

University Hospital with what appeared to be life-threatening injuries. The woman, in her 60s, was in critical condition. No names were released, but police spokesman Dwight Mitchell identified the deceased as a girl, a 38-year-old woman and a 40-year-old man. The shootings were reported shortly before 4:30 p.m. EDT, Mitchell said.

Russia could stand in way of Obama's nuke cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—By saying he intends to bargain with Russia over new reductions in nuclear weapons,

rather than make cuts on his own, President Barack Obama is asking for cooperation from a former Cold War foe in no mood to agree. Relations between Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin are tense, reflecting U.S. concerns about human rights abuses in Russia, the two leaders' disagreement over Syria's civil war and other points of contention. That doesn't mean the U.S. won't eventually shrink its arsenal beyond what is required by an existing U.S.-Russia treaty that took effect just two years ago. It probably will. But it might not happen on Obama's watch.

Asia

PH sends troops to disputed shoal



In this May 7, 2013 photo, Filipino fishermen bring their fish to shore in the coastal town of Infanta, Pangasinan province, northwestern Philippines. Since China took control of the Scarborough Shoal last year, which Beijing calls Huangyan Island, Filipino fishermen say Chinese maritime surveillance ships have shooed them from the disputed waters in the South China Sea and roped off the entrance to the vast lagoon that had been their fishing paradise for decades.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines has deployed a fresh batch of marines and supplies to a shoal in the disputed South China Sea where a Chinese warship and surveillance vessels appeared last month and triggered a new standoff in the strategic waters, security officials said Wednesday.

The new contingent of Filipino marines replaced troops at the Second Thomas Shoal, where the arrival last month of Chinese ships sparked diplomatic protests by the Philippines.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said the shoal lies within the Philippines' internationally recognized 200-nautical mile (370-kilometer) exclusive economic zone. China claims almost the entire South China Sea as its own and last year took control of another shoal in the Philippines' economic zone, prompting Manila to seek U.N. arbitration.

The Filipino marines at the Second Thomas, known in the Philippines as Ayungin Shoal, have been stationed in a decrepit military hospital ship that ran aground in 1999 on the shallows.

low coral outcrop and has since become an awkward symbol of Philippine sovereignty.

Gazmin said he had discussed the new Philippine deployment with Chinese Ambassador Ma Keqing. Ma raised concerns that the Philippines was planning to erect concrete structures at the shoal to reinforce its territorial claim, but Gazmin said he had assured her there was no such plan.

Gazmin said he discussed the issue with Ma to prevent a possible confrontation between Chinese and Filipino forces, but stressed that the Philippines was free to undertake any activity in the shoal without notifying China.

"It's ours," Gazmin said by telephone.

Military chief of staff Gen. Emmanuel Bautista said at least two Chinese government ships in the vicinity of the shoal did not interfere when a Philippine vessel transported the troops and food and other supplies to Second Thomas Shoal.

"We don't have any problem as long as (they're) non-confrontational and there's no hampering of our move-

ments," Bautista told reporters. "We're there to show our flag in our territories and we will continue to do that."

Gazmin said he discussed the tense situation at the shoal with visiting U.S. security officials, including Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, at a Manila meeting Tuesday.

"They're really concerned and want to be sure that this will be resolved without use of force," Gazmin said.

The Second Thomas Shoal lies near the Spratlys, a chain of resource-rich islands, islets and reefs contested by China along with Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam. China and the Philippines figured in a monthslong standoff over another territory, Scarborough Shoal, which lies north of the Spratlys, in April last year. Philippine ships later backed off from Scarborough, giving China effective control of the shoal.

China published a new map in January that included for the first time more than 130 islands and islets in the vast waters that were not featured in its previous maps.

he would work to resolve the issue.

Floods strand pilgrims in India, deaths could rise

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Monsoon flooding that has stranded thousands of people and caused landslides in northern India has killed almost 120 people, and the prime minister said the toll could rise substantially. The torrential rain and landslides since Sunday have stranded pilgrims at four revered Hindu shrines, washed away bridges and roads and caused other damage in Uttarakhand state. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said after returning from an aerial survey Wednesday that the death toll there was 102. "It is feared that the loss of life could be much higher," he said. An additional 17 people died in collapsed homes in neighboring Uttar Pradesh state, said R.L. Vishwakarma, a state police officer.

World

New MERS virus spreads easily and is even deadlier than SARS

LONDON (AP)—A mysterious new respiratory virus that originated in the Middle East spreads easily between people and appears more deadly than SARS, doctors reported Wednesday after investigating the biggest outbreak in Saudi Arabia.

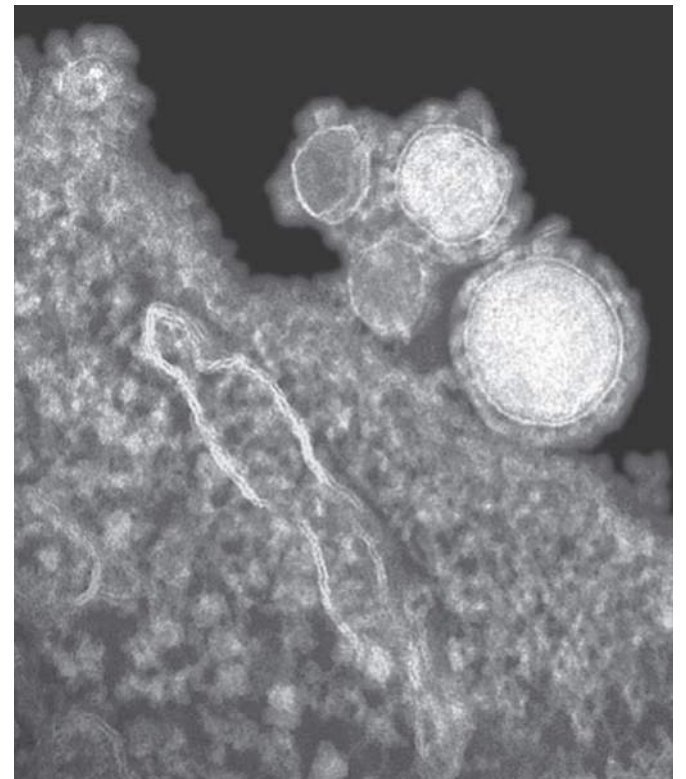
More than 60 cases of what is now called MERS, including 38 deaths, have been recorded by the World Health Organization in the past year, mostly in Saudi Arabia. So far, illnesses haven't spread as quickly as SARS did in 2003, ultimately triggering a global outbreak that killed about 800 people.

An international team of doctors who investigated nearly two dozen cases in eastern Saudi Arabia found the new coronavirus has some striking similarities to SARS. Unlike SARS, though, scientists remain baffled as to the source of MERS.

In a worrying finding, the team said MERS (Middle East respiratory syndrome) not only spreads easily between people, but within hospitals. That was also the case with SARS, a distant relative of the new virus.

"To me, this felt a lot like SARS did," said Dr. Trish Perl, a senior hospital epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins Medicine, who was part of the team. Their report was published online Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Perl said they couldn't nail down how it was spread in every case—through droplets from



This undated electron microscope image made available by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases - Rocky Mountain Laboratories shows novel coronavirus particles, also known as the MERS virus, colored in yellow.

sneezing or coughing, or a more indirect route. Some of the hospital patients weren't close to the infected person, but somehow picked up the virus.

"In the right circumstances, the spread could be explosive," said Perl, while emphasizing that the team only had a snapshot of one MERS cluster in Saudi Arabia.

Cases have continued to trickle in, and there appears to be an ongoing outbreak in Saudi Arabia. MERS cases

have also been reported in Jordan, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Tunisia. Most have had a direct connection to the Middle East region.

In the Saudi cluster that was investigated, certain patients infected many more people than would be expected, Perl said. One patient who was receiving dialysis treatment spread MERS to seven others, including fellow dialysis patients at the same hospital.

WORLD BRIEFS

Obama urges 'bold' nuclear cuts in Berlin speech

BERLIN (AP)—Summoning the harsh history of this once-divided city, President Barack Obama on Wednesday cautioned the U.S. and Europe against "complacency" brought on by peace, pledging to cut America's deployed nuclear weapons by one-third if Cold War foe Russia does the same. The president also declared that his far-reaching surveillance programs had saved lives on both sides of the Atlantic, as he sought to defend the controversial data-mining to skeptical Europeans. Speaking against the soaring backdrop of the Brandenburg Gate, Obama said that "bold reductions" to the U.S. and Russian nuclear forces were needed to move the two powers away from the war posture that continues to seed mistrust between their governments.

Militants storm UN compound in Somalia; 20 killed

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Seven al-Qaida-linked militants on a suicide mission attacked the U.N. compound Wednesday with a truck bomb and then poured inside, killing at least 13 people before dying in the assault. At least three foreigners were slain during the raid in the Somali capital of Mogadishu, where the United Nations expanded its presence this year, about 18 months after Islamic insurgents were pushed from the seaside city. The militant group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack, calling the U.N. "a merchant of death."

3 little liligers cavort at Russian zoo

The zoo in Novosibirsk, Russia's third-largest city, is home to a unique animal—the liliger. That's a big cat breed where the father is a lion and the mother is a lion-tiger hybrid, called a liger. The first liliger was born in the zoo last year and now there's a second litter of three, all of them females. They were born in May, and now have grown up enough to start exploring their surroundings, showing an endearing clumsy energy. Their mother, Zita, was born in the zoo in 2004. Their father, Sam, is an African lion. (AP)

John Paul II moves a step closer to sainthood

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope John Paul II has moved a step closer to sainthood. A Vatican official says a commission of theologians approved a miracle attributed to his intercession, clearing a key hurdle. The case now goes to a commission of cardinals and then Pope Francis. John Paul's canonization is possible in autumn to coincide with the 35th anniversary of his election, though the official said Wednesday on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to reveal details about the case that it may be too soon. The Polish-born pope has been on the fast track for sainthood ever since retired Pope Benedict XVI waived the traditional five-year waiting period and allowed the investigation into his life and virtues to begin just weeks after his 2005 death. John Paul was beatified in 2011.

ASIAN BRIEFS

US tries saving Taliban talks after Karzai objects

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Hopes dimmed for talks aimed at ending the Afghan war when an angry President Hamid Karzai on Wednesday suspended security negotiations with the U.S. and scuttled a peace delegation to the Taliban, sending American officials scrambling to preserve the possibility of dialogue with the militants. What provoked the mercurial Karzai and infuriated many other Afghans was a move by the Taliban to cast their new office in the Gulf nation of Qatar as a rival embassy. The Taliban held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday in which they hoisted their flag and a banner with the name they used while in power more than a decade ago: "Political Office of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan." U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry spoke with Karzai on the phone, telling him that his concerns were justified and that

Off The Wall

Fluffy cows: Old beauty practice gains attention



In this photo provided by Matt Lautner is a fluffy male cow named Texas Tornado at Lautner Farms in Adel, Iowa. AP

ADEL, Iowa (AP)—Grooming cows so they look like unusually large poodles is a well-known beautification practice in the show cattle industry. But although it may be decades old, it's just now getting attention on the Internet. It started with a photo of a male cow named Texas Tornado who had a particularly fluffy coat. "Fluffy cow" photos are now making the rounds. The practice is meant to help sell livestock for breeding or harvesting. The cattle go through a beauty pageant regiment. They're washed, brushed and blow dried. Special oils add an extra fluff. The bull's owner, Matt Lautner of Lautner Farms in Iowa, helps raise many fluffy cows. He's using social media to run with the overwhelming response, and hopes it brings more attention to the industry.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Charlie Trotter accused of selling bogus \$46K wine
CHICAGO (AP)—Award-winning chef Charlie Trotter is being sued by two New York wine collectors who say he sold them a bottle of wine for more than \$46,000 that wasn't what it said on the label. The federal lawsuit filed Thursday in Chicago accuses Trotter and one of his wine experts of duping them into buying what they thought was a magnum of 1945 Romanee-Conti from the Domaine de la Romanee-Conti winery in June 2012. The collectors, Bekim and Ilir Frrokaj, say an appraisal firm concluded the bottle was counterfeit. They are seeking damages of more than \$76,000. They accuse Trotter and his company of violating Illinois consumer fraud laws.

NJ cease and desist order brings scathing rebuttal
NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Rare is the legal rebuttal that calls a cease and desist order a "literary gag gift" and uses the phrase "big meanie." Then there's the sarcasm-laden document that landed on the desk of the West Orange, N.J., township lawyer Monday. It's a response to a cease and desist order sent to a township resident who started using the website westorange.info in May. The township said it would likely "deceive the public" and must be taken down. The man's lawyer, Stephen B. Kaplitt, sent a scathing rebuttal reminding the township lawyer about the First Amendment. Kaplitt even makes fun of the website, saying it's "so minimalist that it arguably qualifies as modern art."

Cat nurses orphaned pit bull puppy in Ohio
CLEVELAND (AP)—A cat caring for four newborn kittens is nursing an orphaned week-old pit bull puppy in Cleveland. Sharon Harvey of the Cleveland Animal Protective League said Wednesday that Lurlene the cat welcomed Noland the puppy to her "unusual little family." The puppy was dropped off at the animal shelter last week when he was a day old. The staff decided to place Noland with the nursing cat and her litter because bottle feeding doesn't always work. The puppy will grow faster, so the shelter says it may have to come up with another feeding idea in several weeks until Noland is ready for adoption.

Hitchhiking cat 'Mata Hairi' headed home to Oregon

HELENA, Mont. (AP)—A well-traveled cat named "Mata Hairi" will soon be reunited with her owner after spending nearly 10 months traveling thousands of miles with a hitchhiker who rescued her from the rain. The feline adventure started in Portland, Ore., when the cat's owner, Ron Buss, let her out of the house on Sept. 1. The cat, white with patches of dark gray, usually left for no more than a couple of hours at a time, but this time she didn't return. When Michael King, who has been homeless since 2003, spotted Mata Hairi, she was crouched under a table at a cafe, trying to stay out of the pouring rain. "I see cats all the time," King said. "I don't pick up cats. I don't want a cat, especially a full-grown one. And he definitely didn't want to haul around the needed food and bowls that would add 20 pounds to his pack. "Something told me to grab her. I don't know," King told the Independent Record. He named the cat Tabor, for the cafe where he found her. She traveled with King as he hitchhiked to California, back to Portland and out to Montana, where King's foster father lives.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

†Concepcion Diaz Cabrera

Lovingly known as "Chong Diaz"

February 08, 1931 – June 14, 2013

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband: †Juan Leon Guerrero Cabrera

Parents: †Francisco Dela Cruz Diaz & †Maria Torres Diaz

Parents-in-law: †Prudencio Mendiola Cabrera & †Maria Muna Deleon Guerrero

Granddaughter: †Crystal Lynn A. Cabrera

Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws: †Vicente D. & †Teresa U Diaz, †Francisco D. Diaz, †Isabel D. Diaz, †Nicolas D. Diaz, †Nicolas D. Diaz, †Rosa D. & †Clark Gonzales, †Rita D. Sablan, †Antonio & †Maria M. Diaz, †Emiliana D. Diaz, †Jose D. & †Tomasa U. Diaz, †Juana D. Diaz, †Rita D. Diaz, †Maria D. Diaz, †Joaquin P. & †Emiliana S. Villagomez. †Maximo DLG. Cabrera, †Lazarus DLG. Cabrera, †Antonio DLG. Cabrera & †Martha DLG. Cabrera

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren: Maria D. Cabrera and Carlos Ruiz; Eliceo D. and Victoria A. Cabrera, children and grandchildren; Francisco D. and Vivian P. Cabrera and children; Isabel C. and Ari Altinman and children; Jose D. and Gail M. Cabrera, children and grandchildren; Emiliana C. and Alfredo Montoya and children; Martha C. & Edward Santos and children; Lucia C. and Vicente B. Castro and children; Victor D. & Lourdes H. Cabrera and children

Reared Daughter: Claire Dina Cabrera

Brothers, Sisters In-Laws: Maria Tanaka Diaz, Herman S. Sablan, Lorenzo DLG. & Rosa S. Cabrera, Alejandra C. & Manuel P. Cruz, Anna C. & Ken Baer, Natividad DLG. Cabrera, Soledad C. Cabrera

Daily Mass of Intention is celebrated each evening at 06:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church. On Wednesday, June 19th and Friday, June 21st, Mass of Intention will be offered at Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 06:00 a.m.

Funeral Services will be held tomorrow Saturday, June 22, 2013. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 07:30 a.m. to Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso services will be at 08:00 a.m. followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS

Children of the late †Juan Leon Guerrero & †Concepcion Diaz Cabrera and family

Science & Technology

LA to give every student an iPad

NEW YORK (AP)—Los Angeles' school system, the second largest in the United States, is ordering iPads for all its students, handing Apple a major success in its quest to make the tablet computer a replacement for textbooks.

The Los Angeles Board of Education on Tuesday approved the purchase of \$30 million worth of iPads as the first part of a multi-year commitment. It found that the iPad was the least expensive option that met its specifications.

The initial order is for more than 31,000 iPads, Apple said.

Microsoft changes Xbox One policies after public outcry

NEW YORK (AP)—Microsoft rolled back a much-criticized requirement that its upcoming Xbox One gaming console be regularly connected to the Internet and made clear that there will be no limitations on sharing games.

Microsoft Corp. has been criticized for vague statements about whether it will allow Xbox One buyers to play secondhand software. Gamers also

The Los Angeles Unified School District has more than 640,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

The textbooks will be delivered through an application from Pearson, a major publisher, rather than through Apple's own iBooks. Apple and its publisher partners launched a suite of textbooks for iBooks in early 2012.

According to biographer Walter Isaacson, changing the textbook market was a pet project of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, even in the last year of his life. At

a dinner in early 2011, Jobs told News Corp. Chairman Rupert Murdoch that paper textbooks could be made obsolete by the iPad. Jobs wanted to circumvent the state certification process for textbook sales by having Apple release textbooks for free on the tablet computer.

Apple said 10 million iPads are in use in schools today. The company said that when the rollout is completed, Los Angeles will be the largest school district in the nation to provide each student with an iPad.

expressed distaste for a requirement that the console be connected to the Internet once every 24 hours.

Don Mattrick, president of Microsoft's Interactive Entertainment business, said in a blog post Wednesday that an Internet connection will no longer be required to play games on the Xbox One after its initial setup, and users can share and play games like they

have on the Xbox 360.

Mattrick said the changes are in response to feedback Microsoft received since unveiling plans for the console in May.

"You told us how much you loved the flexibility you have today with games delivered on disc. The ability to lend, share, and resell these games at your discretion is of incredible importance to you," he wrote.

(all share radio frequencies designated for public use).

Q: The "My Documents" icon disappeared from the Desktop screen of my Windows Vista PC. How can I get the icon back?—Lon Cross, St. Louis Park, Minn.

A: Click the "Start" button and select "Documents" from the menu. Use the "Restore Down" button at the top right of the screen to make the Documents folder cover only part of your screen, so that the Desktop screen is visible beneath it.

Then use your mouse to drag the Documents folder icon to the Desktop. The Documents folder won't actually move, but the action will create a shortcut to the Documents folder on your Desktop.

Why Wi-Fi is speedier than Internet

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)



QUESTION: You wrote that any Wi-Fi router you can buy today will be much faster than your Internet connection. Does this mean the wireless router can transmit data faster than my Internet connection can send it? If so, who cares?

Along those lines, what's the best way to measure the Internet data speeds coming into my home via my cable modem? Is there a way to use the Speedtest.net website to measure the data speed to a specific computer in the house? I've noticed that the Internet speed to my PC, which is wired to the router, is faster than the speed that my wife gets on her Wi-Fi-equipped laptop in another room.—Charles Solly, St. Augustine, Fla.

ANSWER: It might seem silly that your home Internet connection (typically less than 20 megabits per second) is left in the dust by your Wi-Fi router (300 to 900 megabits per second advertised, although 25 to 50 percent slower in practice). After all, you can't share Internet data around the house faster than you receive it.

But it turns out to be important. When that fast Wi-Fi router is shared by several PCs, tablet computers or smartphones, each of those devices claims part of the router's overall speed. The more Wi-Fi devices using the home network, the slower the speed that each one gets. So it makes sense to start out with a fast Wi-Fi router.

It is possible to measure the speed being received by each computer in the house. When you use Speedtest.net, a credible and widely used site, you are sending

the website a request to measure the time it takes to download or upload a preset amount of data to or from the PC you're using at the moment. All things being equal, you'll get about a 30 percent faster speed on a PC with a wired connection to the Internet compared with a PC in the same house that's connected by Wi-Fi. In most cases, that's a difference of seconds, not minutes.

Why? Once in your home, data can't travel over the air as quickly as it moves through a wire. Obstacles for Wi-Fi include the walls in your house, which can affect signal quality, and radio interference from other Wi-Fi networks, microwave ovens or garage door openers

First Year Death Anniversary

In Loving Memories of

†Elias Eugene Wabol Nekaifes
†Antonio Alejandro Wabol Nekaifes
†David Jr. Wabol Nekaifes

We the family, humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our dearly beloveds unto eternal life.

Daily Mass of Intentions is being offered at 6:00AM at Kristo Rai Church beginning Saturday, June 15, 2013 thru Saturday, June 22, 2013. Holy Rosary is being said at 7:00PM at the residence of Zina Camacho Nekaifes in Kagman III Phase 2

On the final day Sunday, June 23, 2013, Mass will be offered at 6:00AM at Kristo Rai Church followed by Holy Rosary at 7:00PM at the residence of Zina Camacho Nekaifes.

Your Prayers are greatly appreciated

Zina Camacho Nekaifes and Children
Nekaifes Sisters and Brother
Margarita N. Igisaiar,
Grandchildren and
The Family



FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY



In Loving Memory

MIGUEL SABLÁN DEMAPAN

As we commemorate the first death anniversary of our beloved Miguel, we would like to invite our families and friends to join us for the daily mass of intention. Mass will begin on Saturday, June 22, 2013 and end on Sunday, June 30, 2013 at Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa at 6:00 in the morning.

We would be forever honored and grateful for your presence. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

Si Yu'us Maase
Frances Tenorio Demapan
and Children

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

†Derry Dee Noisom

We, the family humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass of Intention will be offered from Monday, June 17, 2013 to Tuesday, June 25, 2013.

Monday, June 17, 2013	6:00PM	Santa Remedios Church
Tuesday, June 18, 2013	6:00PM	San Roque Church
Wednesday, June 19, 2013	6:00PM	Santa Remedios Church
Thursday, June 20, 2013	6:00PM	San Roque Church
Friday, June 21, 2013	6:00PM	Santa Remedios Church
Saturday, June 22, 2013	6:00PM	Santa Remedios Church
Sunday, June 23, 2013	8:00AM	Santa Remedios Church
Monday, June 24, 2013	6:00PM	Santa Remedios Church
Tuesday, June 25, 2013	6:00PM	San Roque Church

Your presence thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank You, Si Yu'use Ma'ase, Ghilisou and Salamat Po

Luise Q. Noisom and Family

Life & Style

Actor James Gandolfini dies in Italy at age 51

LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Gandolfini, whose portrayal of a brutal, emotionally delicate crime boss in HBO's "The Sopranos" was the brilliant center of one of TV's greatest drama series and turned the mobster stereotype on its head, died Wednesday in Italy. He was 51.

Gandolfini died while vacationing in Rome, the cable channel and Gandolfini's managers Mark Armstrong and Nancy Sanders said in a joint statement. No cause of death was given.

"He was a genius," said "Sopranos" creator David Chase. "Anyone who saw him even in the smallest of his performances knows that. He is one of the greatest actors of this or any time. A great deal of that genius resided in those sad eyes."

Gandolfini, who won three Emmy Awards for his role as Tony Soprano, worked steadily in film and on stage after the series ended. He earned a 2009 Tony Award nomination for his role in the celebrated production of "God of Carnage."

"Our hearts are shattered and we will miss him deeply. He and his family were part of our family for many years and we are all grieving," said Armstrong and Sanders.

HBO called the actor a "special man, a great talent, but more importantly a gentle and loving person who treated everyone, no matter their title or position, with equal respect." The channel expressed sympathy for his wife and children.

Joe Gannascoli, who played Vito Spatafore on the HBO



This 1999 file photo provided by HBO, shows James Gandolfini as mob boss Tony Soprano, in an episode from the first season of the HBO cable television mob series, "The Sopranos."

drama, said he was shocked and heartbroken.

"Fifty-one and leaves a kid—he was newly married. His son is fatherless now. ... It's way too young," Gannascoli said.

Gandolfini and his wife, Deborah, who were married in 2008, have a daughter, Liliana, born last year, HBO said. The actor and his former wife, Marcy, have a teenage son, Michael.

Gandolfini's performance in "The Sopranos" was indelible and career-making, but he refused to be stereotyped as the bulky mobster who was a therapy patient, family man and apparently effortless killer.

In a December 2012 interview with The Associated Press—a rare sit-down for the star who avoided the spotlight—he was upbeat about a slew of smaller roles following the breathtaking blackout ending in 2007 of "The Sopranos."

"I'm much more comfortable doing smaller things," Gandolfini said in the interview. "I like them. I like the way they're shot; they're shot quickly. It's all about the scripts—that's what it is—and I'm getting some interesting little scripts."

He played Defense Secretary Leon Panetta in Kathryn Bigelow's Osama bin Laden hunt docudrama "Zero Dark Thirty." He worked with Chase for the '60s period drama "Not Fade Away," in which he played the old-school father of a wannabe rocker. And in Andrew Dominick's crime flick "Killing Them Softly," he played an aged, washed-up hit man.

There were comedies such as the political satire "In the Loop," and the heartwarming drama "Welcome to the Rileys," which co-starred Kristen Stewart. He voiced the Wild Thing Carol in "Where the Wild Things Are" and made a rare return to the TV

screen with the HBO film "Cinemathe Verite."

He was mourned online by a flood of celebrity comments. "The great James Gandolfini passed away today. Only 51. I can't believe it," Bette Midler posted on her Twitter account.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to James Gandolfini's family. An extraordinary actor. RIP, Mr. Gandolfini," Robin Williams tweeted.

Deploying his unsought clout as a star, Gandolfini produced (though only sparingly appeared in) a pair of documentaries for HBO focused on a cause he held dear: veterans affairs.

"Alive Day Memories: Home from Iraq" (2007) profiled 10 soldiers and Marines who had cheated death but continued to wage personal battles long after their military service had ended. Four years later, "Wartorn: 1861-2010" charted victims of post-traumatic stress disorder from the U.S. invasion of Iraq all the way back to the Civil War.

"Do I think a documentary is going to change the world?" Gandolfini said with characteristic modesty during an interview about the latter film. "No, but I think there will be individuals who will learn things from it, so that's enough."

His final projects included the film "Animal Rescue," directed by Michael R. Roskam and written by Dennis Lehane, which has been shot and is expected to be released next year. He also had agreed to star in a seven-part limited series for HBO, "Criminal Justice," based on a BBC show. He had shot a pilot for an early iteration of the project.

Gandolfini grew up in Park Ridge, N.J., the son of a building maintenance chief at a Catholic school and a high school

lunch lady.

While Tony Soprano was a larger-than-life figure, Gandolfini was exceptionally modest and obsessive—he described himself as "a 260-pound Woody Allen."

In past interviews, his cast mates had far more glowing descriptions to offer.

"I had the greatest sparring partner in the world, I had Muhammad Ali," said Lorraine Bracco, who, as Tony's psychiatrist Dr. Melfi, went one-on-one with Gandolfini in their penetrating therapy scenes. "He cares what he does, and does it extremely well."

After earning a degree in communications from Rutgers University, Gandolfini moved to New York, where he worked as a bartender, bouncer and nightclub manager. When he was 25, he joined a friend of a

friend in an acting class, which he continued for several years.

Gandolfini's first big break was a Broadway production of "A Streetcar Named Desire" where he played Steve, one of Stanley Kowalski's poker buddies. His film debut was in Sidney Lumet's "A Stranger Among Us" (1992).

Director Tony Scott, who killed himself in August 2012, had praised Gandolfini's talent for fusing violence with charisma—which he would perfect in Tony Soprano.

Gandolfini played a tough guy in Tony Scott's 1993 film "True Romance" who beat Patricia Arquette's character to a pulp while offering such jarring, flirtatious banter as, "You got a lot of heart kid."

Scott called Gandolfini "a unique combination of charming and dangerous."

Some of Tony Soprano's memorable lines

NEW YORK (AP)—Some memorable lines spoken by the late James Gandolfini as Tony Soprano in "The Sopranos":

■ "You know my feelings: Every day is a gift. It's just, does it have to be a pair of socks?"

■ "What kind of (expletive) human being am I, if my own mother wants me dead?"

■ About his father: "The belt was his favorite childhood development tool."

■ "Nothing beats popping up some Orville Redenbachers and listening to 'Men in Black.'"

■ "Nowadays, everybody's gotta go to shrinks and counselors, and go on 'Sally Jessy Raphael' and talk about their problems. What happened to Gary Cooper? The strong, silent type."

■ "I gotta be honest with you. I'm not getting any satisfaction from my work."

■ "I'm like King Midas in reverse. Everything I touch turns to (expletive)."

■ "You got any idea what my life would be worth if certain people found out I checked into a laughing academy?"

■ "When you're married, you'll understand the importance of fresh produce."

■ "It wasn't like it was friggin' Cobain. It was just a little suicidal gesture, that's all."

Stars share reaction to James Gandolfini's death

■ "He was a genius. Anyone who saw him even in the smallest of his performances knows that. He is one of the greatest actors of this or any time. A great deal of that genius resided in those sad eyes. he was my partner. ... He was my brother in ways I can't explain and never will be able to explain."—David Chase, creator of "The Sopranos."

■ "James Gandolfini. This is a tremendous loss. A brilliant actor and a wonderful man. Our deepest sympathies to his family. Devastating."—Actor Michael Chiklis on Twitter.

■ "The great James Gandolfini passed away today. Only 51. I can't believe it."—Bette Midler on Twitter.

■ "It's an awful shock. James Gandolfini was a fine actor, a Rutgers alum and a true Jersey guy. I was a huge fan of his and the character he played so authentically, Tony Soprano. I have gotten to know Jimmy and many of the other actors in the Sopranos cast and I can say that each of them are an individual New Jersey treasure."—New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

■ "James Gandolfini what a nice guy, so funny and sweet. He will be sorely missed. Our deepest condolences to his family."—Aerosmith guitarist Joe Perry on Twitter.

■ "I am heartbroken about James Gandolfini. He was a gentle giant and great man. I love this picture, I loved him."—Actress Rose McGowan, who posted a snapshot of her and Gandolfini on Twitter.

■ "My condolences to the family and all those who loved James Gandolfini—a true NJ Great and NJ Original. RIP."—Newark Mayor Cory Booker on Twitter.

■ "You will be missed greatly James Gandolfini Maybe best actor ever on a tv series. Salute!"—Comedian Artie Lange on Twitter.

■ "awful awful news. James Gandolfini will be missed. He was a great actor. Just great."—Mia Farrow on Twitter.

■ "James Gandolfini. Unbelievably sad news. A fine man."—Steve Carell on Twitter.

■ "My thoughts and prayers go out to James Gandolfini's

family. An extraordinary actor. RIP, Mr. Gandolfini."—Robin Williams.

■ "Fifty-one and leaves a kid—he was newly married. His son is fatherless now ... It's way too young."—Joe Gannascoli, who played Vito Spatafore on "The Sopranos."

■ "James Gandolfini.. So talented, so nice and far too young to be taken away. You will be missed Sir"—Actress Shannen Doherty on Twitter.

■ "R.I.P. James Gandolfini. Such a great actor. More than just tony soprano and that would have been a lot on its own."—Musician Rob Thomas on Twitter.

■ "I am so deeply saddened by the untimely passing of sweet James Gandolfini! My heart is broken for his family!! I'm in shock worked with him in 'Surviving Christmas'"—Christina Applegate on Twitter.

■ "James Gandolfini was a kind, funny, wonderful guy. I'm so lucky to have worked with him. Sending love to his family. Such a sad, sad day. worked with him on 'The Incredible Burt Wonderstone'"—Olivia Wilde on Twitter.

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MONSTERS UNIVERSITY 3D [CC] (G)
Fri. - Sat. (100 430) 710 945
Sun. - Mon. (100 PM 430 PM) 710 PM

WORLD WAR Z [CC] (PG-13)
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Sun. - Mon. (415 PM)

WORLD WAR Z 3D [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Mon. (115 PM) 720 PM

MAN OF STEEL [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Mon. (345 PM)

MAN OF STEEL 3D [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Mon. (1230 PM) 700 PM

THIS IS THE END [CC] (R)
Fri. - Sat. (215 445) 730 1000
Sun. - Mon. (215 PM 445 PM) 730 PM

AFTER EARTH [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. 705 PM 930 PM
Sun. - Mon. 705 PM

NOW YOU SEE ME [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (120 410) 715 955
Sun. - Mon. (120 PM 410 PM) 715 PM

FAST & FURIOUS 6 [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (125 425) 725 1025
Sun. - Mon. (125 PM 425 PM) 725 PM

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Madonna premieres tour film, talks secret project

NEW YORK (AP)—Madonna said there were days when she was exhausted during her recent “MDNA” world tour, but she decided to press on.

You won’t see those behind-the-scenes battles in her new concert film, “The MDNA Tour,” which premieres Saturday on the online and cable network Epix. But you will see the 54-year-old pop icon performing—mainly highlights from her Miami shows—for two hours on her tour, which started in May of last year and wrapped in December.

“There’s no such thing as not in the mood because the show must go on, right?” the singer said at the film’s premiere Tuesday night at New York’s Paris Theater. “I’m a human being like everybody else, so I would have my nights, my bad nights and I would cry and I would say, ‘I don’t want to do this.’”

Madonna told a feverish crowd of fans, her dancers, her tour team, socialites and members of press that she wanted her shows to be a relief for those paying to see her.

“I sold the tickets and I can’t let my audience down,” she told the crowd of a few hundred. “Before every show everyone came into my dressing room and we got in a circle and said prayers and 50 percent of the time I said them and 49 percent



British actor Henry Cavill, who plays Superman in the upcoming film “Man of Steel,” poses for photos during a media event to promote the film, in Mexico City, Friday, June 7, 2013.

of the time I was crying, usually from over-exhaustion. But there’s something about pushing yourself out there when it’s

pouring rain or you’re freezing cold or you don’t feel well or something really crazy happened in the world like Hurri-

cane Sandy.”

Madonna’s tour, which included design help from her 16-year-old daughter, Lourdes, also featured her 12-year-old son, Rocco, as a dancer.

“He was going to go on my tour whether he liked it or not,” said Madonna. “I was thrilled to see him every night. He gave me a boost of energy. However, he does not look like that (now). In one year he has grown, he’s 6 feet tall and his voice has deepened. I’m a little bit scared of him.”

Madonna also unveiled a secret project Tuesday—a collaboration with photographer Steven Klein. She showed a one-minute trailer that featured her background dancers and showed the singer being dragged on the floor.

She was answering questions before she premiered the black-and-white video and told the crowd she was leaving the stage so they could see it.

“No,” they screamed.

“Well I can’t sit in front of the trailer. I’ll just do a stage dive. No. I saw the Billboard Awards—no stage dive,” she said jokingly, referring to R&B singer Miguel’s jump that injured a woman at the awards show last month.

Madonna’s new concert film will be released on DVD on Aug. 27.

‘Man of Steel’ promoted from the pulpit



British actor Henry Cavill, who plays Superman in the upcoming film “Man of Steel,” poses for photos during a media event to promote the film, in Mexico City, Friday, June 7, 2013.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Seems Warner Bros. has taken movie marketing to a whole new level—even higher than a bird or a plane.

The studio enlisted Christian-focused firm Grace Hill Media to promote “Man of Steel” to faith-based groups by inviting them to early screenings and creating trailers that highlight the film’s religious themes. They also enlisted Craig Detweiler, a Pepperdine University professor and author of “Into the Dark: Seeing the Sacred in the Top Films of the 21st Century,” to create a Superman-centric sermon outline for pastors titled “Jesus: The Original Superhero.”

“Let’s consider how Superman’s humble origins, his high calling and his transforming sacrifice point us towards Je-

sus, the original superhero,” the notes read.

The tale of Superman has long been associated with religious allegories. “Man of Steel,” which stars British actor Henry Cavill in the titular role, doesn’t shy away from that theme, including portraying the character as 33 years old, having him seek counsel at a church in a time of crisis and forming a cross-like pose while floating in space.

“I just felt like you could be cute with it and pretend like it doesn’t exist, but what that does is hold back the mythology of Superman,” said “Man of Steel” director Zack Snyder in an interview to promote the film earlier this month.

Snyder added, “Comic books are our mythology now. We

don’t really have gods that we believe in that live up on a mountain. We barely believe in the gods that we have, and I just feel like Superman allows us to explain the modern world.”

Hollywood studios frequently market movies to specific religious and cultural groups. Warner Bros. previously marketed films like “The Blind Side,”

Faith Prince to play evil Miss Hannigan in ‘Annie’

NEW YORK (AP)—Faith Prince will soon be getting in touch with her mean side—she’s about to play Miss Hannigan in the “Annie” revival on Broadway.

Prince, who will begin performances on July 19, won a Tony Award in 1992 for “Guys and Dolls” and was nominated three other times for “A Catered Affair,” “Bells Are Ringing” and “Jerome Robbins’ Broadway.”



Prince

“The Notebook,” “The Book of Eli” and the “Harry Potter” series—but not “Green Lantern”—to faith-based groups.

“Man of Steel” earned \$116.6 million in its opening weekend at the box office, giving it the biggest all-time opening in June, as well as the second largest opening of the year behind “Iron Man 3.”

Emmy Award-winning “Glee” star Jane Lynch will play her final performance as

Miss Hannigan on July 14. She had taken over from Tony-winning Katie Finneran as the evil orphanage matron.

Prince will star opposite Lilla Crawford in the title role and Anthony Warlow as Daddy Warbucks. The musical has such gems as “Tomorrow” and “It’s the Hard Knock Life.”

Woody Harrelson launches tree-friendly paper brand

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Woody Harrelson is putting his paper where his passions are.

The 51-year-old actor is the co-founder of Prairie Pulp & Paper Inc., which launched its brand of environmentally friendly paper Wednesday.

The company spent 15 years researching and developing its Step Forward Paper. It’s made

of wheat-straw waste and wood fiber rather than virgin trees.

The company says replacing two packs of traditional copy paper with their product saves one tree.

Harrelson says half the world’s forests are cut down to make paper, and his company’s new paper is “going to be great for our future.”

Mom who abandoned daughter now won’t leave her alone

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I was taken away from my parents at 13 and placed into foster care, where I stayed until I aged out at 21. My biological mother is a drug addict who abandoned me to my father when I was 11. She never tried to contact me while I was in care.

I am now 24 and she won’t leave me alone. She sends Facebook messages that alternate between begging me to let her get to know me, and condemning me for being vindictive and not having forgiveness in my heart. Abby, this woman exposed me to drugs and all manner of seedy people and situations. I was molested and beaten by some of the men she picked up to pay the bills.

Am I a horrible person for ignoring her? I’m close to losing my temper and letting her know exactly how angry I am, but I know it would do no good. I just want to move on with my life and advance in my profession without having to worry about this. What do you think?

STALKED IN NEW YORK

DEAR STALKED: Silence sends a strong message. I think that when the harassment started, you should have immediately blocked this woman on Facebook. It’s not too late to do that now. If she continues to annoy you, consider getting a restraining order.

Because you are on a path to success, allow NOTHING to divert you.

DEAR ABBY: On March 14 you printed a question from “Jim in New Jersey” who asked if brand-new clothing should be washed before wearing. Having worked in a shirt factory for years, let me tell you how many hands handle the shirt before it goes into that neat little bag.

1. Someone spreads the fabric and lays the pattern.
2. The cutter cuts it.
3. Someone else ties the different parts together.
4. Another person takes the parts to the sewing people.
5. One sewer attaches the pocket to the front.
6. Another sews the yoke to the back.
7. Another sews that back to the front.
8. Another sews in the sleeves.
9. Another sews the side seams.
10. Still another hems the bottom.
11. Another adds the collar.
12. Another sews on the cuffs (if long-sleeved).
13. Someone else sews on the buttons.
14. Another reinforces the buttonholes.
15. An inspector examines the garment for loose threads.
16. An auditor gives it a final check.
17. And finally, someone folds the shirt and puts it into that nice, clean-looking bag.

Don’t even ask how many times it may have fallen on the floor—or if we washed our hands. Abby, I NEVER wear anything until I wash it!

JOANN IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR JOANN: And neither will I. Thank you!

DEAR ABBY: I’m 59 years old and still take my baseball mitt with me when I go to games in hopes of catching a ball. At what age should a guy stop doing it? (We usually sit in the lower level near the front.)

MINNESOTA TWINS FAN

DEAR TWINS FAN: Stop taking it when you have grown so aged and feeble that when the ball comes your way, you can no longer fend off the younger fans who are also diving for it. And not one moment sooner.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

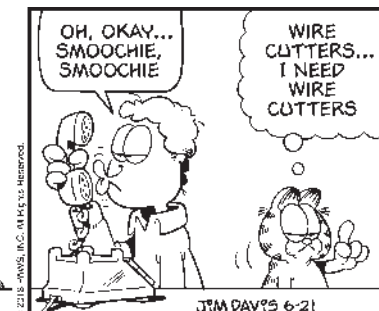
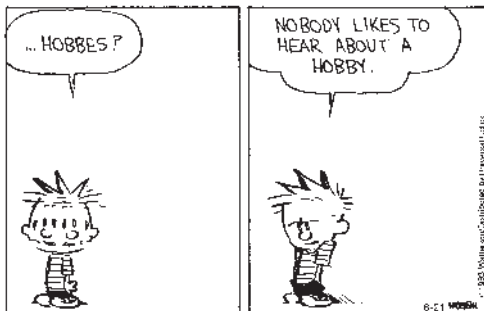
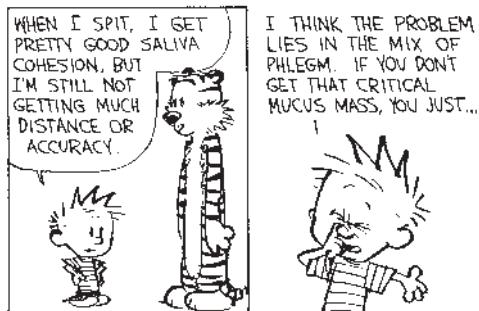
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

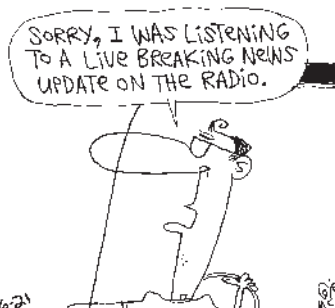
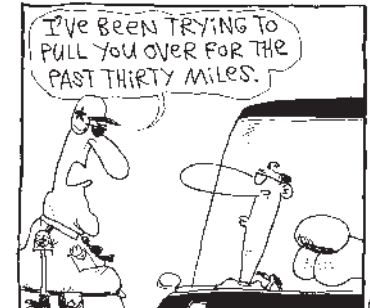
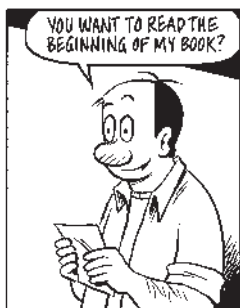


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

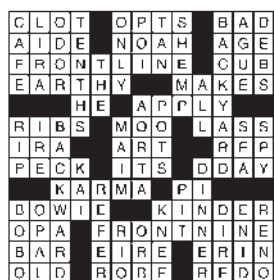


CROSSWORD

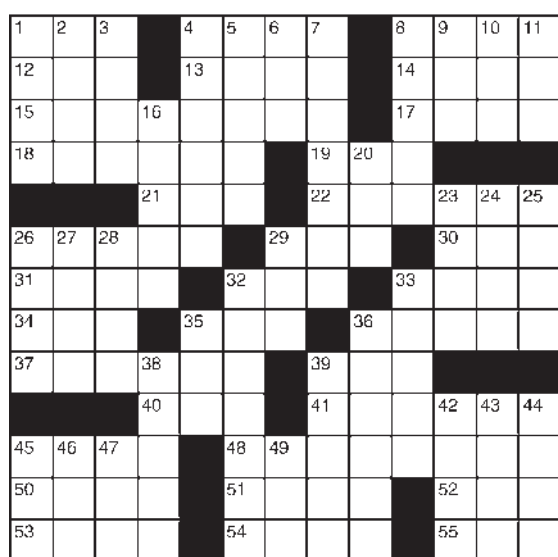
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Witticism
- 4 Out of danger
- 8 "Price Is Right" guesses
- 12 Exist
- 13 Vacation
- 14 Traditional tales
- 15 Scout festival
- 17 Black gem
- 18 Woolly beast
- 19 Kanga's kid
- 21 Firma-ment
- 22 Cavort
- 26 Wander off
- 29 Potent stick
- 30 Inventor Whitney
- 31 Imple-ment
- 32 "Gosh!"
- 33 Small combo
- 34 In times past
- 35 Support system?
- 36 Dud on wheels
- DOWN**
- 1 Naked
- 39 Neely of
- 40 Debtor's letters
- 41 Current measure
- 45 Goad on
- 48 Angkor Wat
- 50 Roster
- 51 Hastened
- 52 Egos' counter-parts
- 53 "Why not?"
- 54 —
- 55 Ball-bearing item
- 20 Feedbag morsel
- 23 Highway shoulder
- 24 Hodge-podge
- 25 MGM mascot
- 26 Impale
- 27 Frat party garb
- 28 Leeway
- 29 Afternoon social
- 32 Julius Marx
- 33 Beat
- 35 Halloween cry
- 36 11th Greek letter
- 38 Product of one's labor?
- 39 Ship of the desert
- 42 Rewrite
- 43 Carousal, e.g.
- 44 Relaxa-tion
- 45 Crafty
- 46 Chart format
- 47 Dos
- 48 Passos trilogy
- 49 Have a bug

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 6-21



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lana Del Rey, 27; Prince William, 31; Chris Pratt, 34; Ray Davies, 69

Happy Birthday: Emotional issues will lead to bouts with disillusionment and deception. Keep facts straight and ask questions if you feel you are being given the run-around. Focus on your own skills and talents and put your efforts into perfecting what you enjoy doing most. Expanding your awareness will lead to interesting contacts who share your concerns. Nurture important relationships. Your numbers are 12, 15, 22, 27, 30, 32, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Home repairs, a residential move or spending quality time with family will brighten your day. Expressing your thoughts and following through by taking action will help you make the changes you've been contemplating. Accept the inevitable and keep moving. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Open up emotionally and share your thoughts and dreams. The suggestions and solutions you receive will help you make quality choices and changes that will improve your personal life and your future. A promise made will change your life. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Anger solves nothing, but taking positive action does. Finding a solution will put you in control. Opt to put your efforts into a moneymaking endeavor or a job prospect that allows you greater opportunity. Diversify and you will advance. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put in your best effort. Use charm and ingenuity coupled with past experience and goal-oriented determination and you will make a lasting impres-

sion and progress. Love is on the rise, and sharing with someone special will bring good results. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Stand up to demands being made and stick to a budget and a plan you can achieve without adding stress. Change is good, but it has to fit into your lifestyle and routine. Step back, take a break and reconsider your options. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can resolve issues if you have a heart-to-heart talk with someone who understands the consequences of not taking care of a cause you believe in. Don't be afraid to suggest something unusual. Avoid an emotional meltdown. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Turn this into a goal-oriented day by embracing knowledge and honing your skills along with updating your resume. Follow your own dream, not one someone else has chosen for you. Make alterations to partnerships that have the potential to hold you back. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Travel to unfamiliar destinations or get involved in activities or events that are unique to you. Spending time learning about different philosophies, cultures or lifestyles will help you choose a path that will improve your future. Love is in the stars. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of medical, financial or legal issues. A problem with someone you are in or considering a partnership with should help you make a decision as to how you move forward. Don't let emotions override what you need to do. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Time spent with someone you love will bring

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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about unforeseen changes to your relationship. Don't try to manipulate a situation that needs to play out without interference. Be responsible, but don't take over. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Engage in activities that challenge you and you will feel rejuvenated. Express your feelings as well as your goals and you will gain support and suggestions that will help you succeed. Favors will be granted and what's owed to you will be repaid. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Personal issues will surface. You must weigh the pros and cons before you make impulsive moves that have a negative impact on what you are trying to accomplish. Talk matters over reasonably and you will find a solution that works. Make love, not war. 5 stars

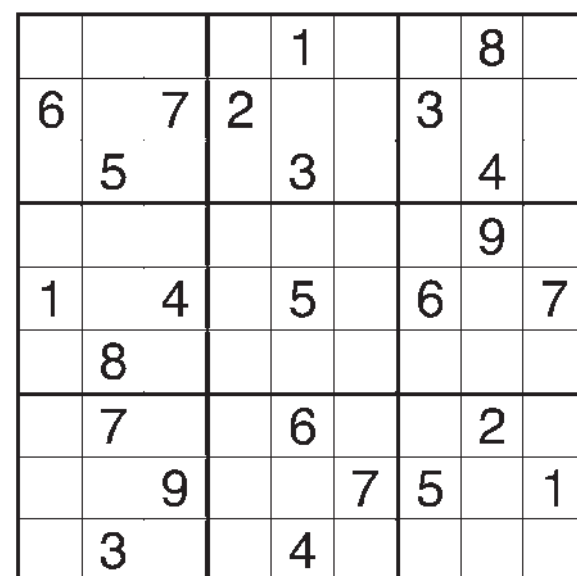
Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, watchful and thoughtful. You are passionate and possessive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, eugenialast.com/blog/ for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



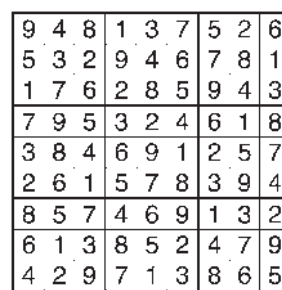
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/21

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORDS. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JAY Z

Solution: 9 letters



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6/21
Actor, Artist, Beats, Beyonce, Big, Blue Ivy, Brand, Brooklyn Nets, Carter, Corey, Deals, Decoded, Doubt, Duet, Empire State, Entrepreneur, Flow, Gloria, Glory, Grammy, Hard Knock Life, Holla, Izzo, Knowles, Live, Lyrics, Mind, Play, Producer, Rapper, Record, Renegade, Rhymes, Roc A Fella, Shawn, Show, Song Cry, Stop, Stranded, Style, Takeover, Vibe
Yesterday's Answer: Sunny
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A title, and legacies, on the line for Heat, Spurs



MIAMI (AP)—Game 7s do more than settle championships. They define legacies.

No matter what happens Thursday night, LeBron James and the Miami Heat, and Tim Duncan's San Antonio Spurs have already won NBA titles and secured a place in history.

Now is their opportunity to elevate it.

The truly memorable teams won the hard way, and that will be the case for the one celebrating at center court this time. It's either a Heat repeat, possible only after James led them back from what seemed certain elimination in the closing seconds of Game 6, or the Spurs shaking off as gut-wrenching a loss as a team can have to become just the fourth club to win a Game 7 of the NBA Finals on the road.

"As a competitor you love it, because you know you have an opportunity and it's up to you," Heat guard Ray Allen said. "We have a chance in our building to make something great. All of our legacies are tied to this moment, this game. It's something our kids will be able to talk about that they were a part of. Forever will remember these moments, so we want to not live and have any regrets."

Allen played in the game the last time the NBA's season went down to the very last day, the Boston Celtics fading at the finish and falling 83-79 to the Los Angeles Lakers in 2010. That made home teams 14-3 in finals Game 7s, with no road team winning since Washington beat Seattle in 1978.

Overcoming those odds, not to mention the NBA's winningest team, would make this more memorable than the Spurs' previous four titles, though this is a franchise that never dwells too much on the past or looks too far into the future.

All that matters is now.

"You know what, it's all about just winning the title. It's not about situation or what has led up to it," Duncan said. "It's a great story for everybody else, but we're here for one reason, one reason only: It's to try to win this game (Thursday). We have had a very good season thus far, and I think we just want to get to the game more than anything. We just want to see what happens and be able to leave everything out there."

The teams trudged back to the arena Wednesday, some 12 hours after the Heat pulled out a 103-100 overtime victory in Game 6 to even the series. The Spurs, five points ahead with 28 seconds left in regulation, had to fight off fatigue and heartbreak, insisting neither would linger into Thursday.

By far the best game of this series, Game 6 immediately took its place among the best finishes in finals history, with everything from James' triple-double to Allen's tying 3-pointer with 5.2 seconds left



Miami Heat shooting guard Dwyane Wade, right, jokes with small forward LeBron James as he takes a shot during NBA basketball practice, Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at the American Airlines Arena in Miami.

in regulation.

It had close calls, debatable decisions, and the NBA's best player at his very best when his team needed him most.

Games 2-5 in the series had

been ugly, but that one was a beauty.

"I think—I know—that game will go down as one of the best finals games that's been seen," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said.

"But I think this series will go down as being one of the most competitive, bizarre series that's been seen. So this is what you pay for to watch. You pay to watch two great teams battle

to the very, very end, and that's what we'll do (Thursday). It will be to the very last second."

The Heat could become the NBA's first repeat champions since the Lakers in 2010. James

Spurs rely on togetherness to overcome collapse

MIAMI (AP)—Through heart-breaking losses and hair-raising victories, through Game 7s of the NBA Finals and Game 46s of the regular season, through contract extension after contract extension, what has defined these San Antonio Spurs more than anything else is the simple fact that they stick together.

Manu Ginobili, Tony Parker, Tim Duncan and Gregg Popovich have been the heart, the soul, the backbone and the brains of this operation for more than a decade. Through an unprecedented era of change and volatility, these Spurs have stayed in San Antonio, stayed together.

Coming off the most gut-wrenching defeat they have ever suffered, that unity, that togetherness, that unparalleled bond is more important now than it ever has been.

A group that thought it had seen everything the NBA could throw at it was shaken to the core when it experienced something totally new—when the Spurs gave away a five-point lead with 21 seconds to play in Game 6 against the Miami Heat and missed the chance to secure the franchise's fifth championship.

"We've never been through a situation like this," Ginobili said on Wednesday. "In 10-plus years we've been through basically everything. But I was

trying to think. Not like this. So hopefully we are up to the challenge. We know that we can play better, and we have to."

Game 7 is Thursday night in Miami, only because the end of Game 6 went so horribly wrong for San Antonio.

The Spurs were up 13 points early in the fourth quarter and led 94-89 with 21 seconds to go. This team that had closed out so many of these games over the years with its cold-blooded precision was ready for perhaps its crowning achievement—dethroning LeBron James and the defending champion Heat on their home floor, no less.

The NBA was raising the yellow ropes around the court, wheeling the Larry O'Brien trophy toward the mouth of the arena and preparing the post-game celebration that was moments away.

Then James hit a 3-pointer, Kawhi Leonard missed a free throw, and Ray Allen drilled another 3 to force overtime. The Heat held on to win it and force a Game 7, and a team that has always prided itself on not letting the emotions of the moment overwhelm them looked totally defeated, totally devastated.

"Still down," Ginobili said a day later. "After a blow like that, it's not easy to get back up."

"But after 12 hours now, I feel a little better knowing that we have another chance, that

we can do so many things better. And that we are in a Game 7 of the NBA Finals. There's not much more than that. We are still in a great situation. We are where we wanted to be at the beginning of the season, still."

In an effort to keep the team together and not dwell on the opportunity that just slipped away, the Spurs went to dinner—together, of course—after Game 6 to share some stories and clear their heads.

"It helped," Duncan said. "It did. The other option is a bunch of us go back to our rooms and sit in our rooms and sit there by ourselves and beat yourself up. So it's always good to be around teammates and kind of get some stuff out in the open. We did exactly that."

"We'll be ready to rock."

This is not the first difficult defeat the Spurs have ever had. There was Derek Fisher's prayer of a shot with 0.4 seconds on the clock in Game 5 of the 2004 Western Conference semifinals. There was Ginobili's foul on Dirk Nowitzki late in Game 7 of the 2006 Western Conference semifinals that allowed the Mavericks to force overtime and eventually beat the Spurs. And there was a home loss against the Detroit Pistons in Game 6 of the 2005 NBA Finals that pushed the series to seven.

But the Spurs have never

been this close to having their hands on the trophy and failed to close it out. These robotic Spurs finally let their guard down last night, showing the raw disappointment that comes with such a defeat. Ginobili, who turned the ball over eight times and couldn't convert a layup in the closing moments of overtime, took it particularly hard.

"A competitor feels it deeply, and really, really tough loss in that regard," Popovich said. "I expect Manu to feel like that after the game. But he'll be fine."

Ginobili will turn 36 in July and is in the final year of his contract. Duncan is 37 and Popovich is 64. Once again, everyone is wondering how much longer these Spurs can stick together.

Right now, the only thing that matters is that they can do it for one more game.

"We are close. We've been through a lot of stuff," Ginobili said. "Not like this, but we believe in the challenge. We think that it can make it even sweeter. "And besides, there's no other option."

As Ginobili said after Game 6, there is no Game 8.

"I think everybody wants to be ready for (Thursday)," Parker said. "Because if you're not ready for tomorrow, you're going to regret it for the next 10, 15 years."

and Chris Bosh moved to Miami to join Wade a few weeks later and they are in the finals for the third time in three chances.

But playing for titles is more expected than celebrated now in Miami, and a 66-win season that included a 27-game winning streak—and perhaps the whole Big Three era—goes down as a failure if the Heat fall Thursday. Yet James said he doesn't need the victory to validate his decision to take his talents to South Beach.

"I mean, I need it because I want it and I only came here—my only goal is to win championships," he said. "I said it, this is what I came here for. This is what I wanted to be a part of this team for."

He, Wade and Bosh are going for No. 2, while San Antonio is getting a second shot at what would be a fourth together for Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili. All their years together have given the Spurs' trio the belief they can bounce back from Tuesday's collapse.

The team went to dinner after the game, Duncan figuring that was better than guys sitting alone with their thoughts in their rooms. Parker and Boris Diaw discussed a similar situation with the French national team in the 2005 European championships, when they blew a late lead against Greece in the semifinals but then came back to beat Spain for the bronze medal.

"We just have to be positive and forget Game 6," Parker said. "It was a great opportunity, but that's life. It's basketball and everybody will be ready."

So will James, who was planning a relaxing night with family and friends Wednesday. He has the most at stake in the game, and when it's over he'll be either a two-time NBA Finals MVP or a two-time loser in a Heat uniform.

"I want to go down as one of the greatest. I want our team to go down as one of the greatest teams. And we have an opportunity to do that," James said. "Hasn't been many teams to win back-to-back championships. It's so hard. It's the hardest thing. I said last year it was the hardest thing I've ever done, winning my first. Last year don't even come close to what we've gone through in this post-season and in these finals."

"So I'll be there (Thursday) night. I'm going to give it my all."

The Spurs have never lost in the finals, but they've never faced a situation quite like this. They won a Game 7 for the 2005 championship, but that victory over Detroit was at home. The last five finals that went the distance all went to the home team.

"I don't really care what it's been like for anybody else at any time," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "All I know is we have had a hell of a year and we have an opportunity to win a championship. That's all that matters."

Chris Davis' 2 HRs help Orioles blast Tigers, 13-3

DETROIT (AP)—Chris Davis cleared the fences twice, giving him a major league leading 26 homers, to help the Baltimore Orioles beat the Detroit Tigers 13-3 Wednesday.

Davis hit a two-run homer and Taylor Teagarden followed with a three-run home run in Baltimore's six-run fourth. Against embattled reliever Jose Valverde, Davis hit another two-run shot for his second multi-homer game of the season and the fifth of his career.

The Orioles improved to a season-high 11 games over .500 after beating the AL Central-leading Tigers twice in the three-game series.

Rays 6, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Desmond Jennings homered, Jeremy Hellickson pitched six strong innings and Tampa Bay Rays ended its drought at Fenway Park.

The Rays had scored a total of five runs in losing their first five games this season at the ballpark, including a doubleheader sweep on Tuesday during which they managed a pair of runs on 10 combined hits.

Jose Molina and Evan Longoria each had three of Tampa Bay's 15 hits and the Rays ended a three-game losing streak with their second win in eight games.

Indians 6, Royals 3

In Cleveland, Justin Masterson

managed to hang around for 6 1-3 innings and win for the sixth time at home, leading Cleveland over Kansas City.

Masterson (9-5) sidestepped some early trouble without giving up any runs and improved to 6-1 with a 2.29 ERA in nine starts at Progressive Field. The right-hander struck out eight while allowing two runs and nine hits.

Rangers 9, Athletics 4

In Arlington, Texas, David Murphy had three hits and scored twice to snap out of a long slump to help Texas beat AL West-leading Oakland.

Justin Grimm (6-5) trailed when he threw his last pitch, but the Rangers scored twice in the bottom of the fifth to go ahead and make him the first Texas starter this month to get a victory.

Twins 7, White Sox 4

In Minneapolis, Justin Morneau homered for the first time in almost two months and the two-run shot helped Minnesota send Chicago to its sixth loss in seven games.

Morneau's third homer of the season followed an RBI single by Josh Willingham in the sixth off Deunte Heath after ace Chris Sale's night ended after five shaky innings. Morneau last went deep on April 28. The 2006 AL MVP has three seasons of 30-plus homers.

Angels 1, Mariners 0

In Anaheim, Calif., C.J. Wilson

pitched two-hit ball for seven innings, Mike Trout scored the only run on a wild pitch by Joe Saunders and Los Angeles edged Seattle.

Wilson (6-5) struck out three, walked two and allowed only two runners as far as second base en route to his fifth straight victory over the Mariners.

Yankees 6, Dodgers 4, 1st game Dodgers 6, Yankees 0, 2nd game

In New York Hanley Ramirez capped a six-hit day with a pair of RBI singles, Yasiel Puig homered to complete a dazzling debut in New York and Los Angeles earned a split of the day-night doubleheader.

The Dodgers salvaged manager Don Mattingly's return to the Bronx after the loss in the opener.

Chris Capuano (2-5) pitched three-hit ball for six innings in his comeback from the disabled list. The Dodgers rebounded from a sloppy loss in the opener to former teammate Hiroki Kuroda (7-5) in a matchup between injury-ravaged teams with \$200 million payrolls.

Blue Jays 5, Rockies 2

In Toronto, Adam Lind hit a three-run home run, Mark Buehrle won his second straight start and Toronto earned its eighth consecutive victory, beating Colorado to complete a three-game sweep.

The streak is Toronto's longest

since a 10-game run in late 2008.

Carlos Gonzalez hit his NL-leading 21st home run for the Rockies, who lost for the sixth time in eight games.

Brewers 3, Astros 1

In Houston, Rickie Weeks hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning and Aramis Ramirez added a solo shot in the ninth to lift Milwaukee past Houston.

The Brewers couldn't get anything going against Houston starter Erik Bedard as he threw a season-high 7 1-3 innings. Bedard was replaced by Hector Ambriz (1-4) with a runner on second, and Weeks greeted him with his sixth homer of the year for a 2-1 lead.

John Axford (3-3) struck out two in the seventh for the win. Francisco Rodriguez allowed two hits in a scoreless ninth for his fifth save and the 299th of his career.

Giants 4, Padres 2

In San Francisco, Gregor Blanco had a pinch hit, two-run triple in the seventh inning, leading the San Francisco Giants to a victory over the San Diego Padres.

Brandon Belt and Marco Scutaro also drove in runs and the Giants won their second straight following a three-game slide. Scutaro and Hunter Pence each had two hits.

Will Venable and Jesus Guzman each hit home runs for the Padres, who have lost two

straight after a seven-game winning streak.

Nationals 6, Phillies 2, 11 innings

In Philadelphia, Ian Desmond hit a grand slam in the 11th inning and Washington beat Philadelphia to avoid a three-game sweep.

Jayson Werth's RBI single with two outs in the ninth tied it off Jonathan Papelbon, who blew a save for the second time in three nights after starting the season 13 for 13.

Braves 5, Mets 3

In Atlanta, Chris Johnson homered for the first time in more than a month, Kris Medlen overcame a defensive blunder and Atlanta bounced back from a doubleheader sweep by beating New York.

Johnson hit a three-run homer in the fourth, his first time going deep since May 13. Jordan Schafer put the Braves ahead to stay with some gutsy baserunning in the fifth, scoring on a wild pitch that didn't even roll off the dirt around home plate.

Medlen (4-7) pitched seven-plus innings for his third win in four starts this month, even though he cost himself two unearned runs with an errant throw.

Diamondbacks 3, Marlins 1

In Phoenix, Cody Ross hit a three-run, pinch-hit home run for Arizona in the eighth inning to spoil an outstanding outing by young

Miami starter Jose Fernandez.

Fernandez (4-4) retired 14 in a row before walking two of the three batters he faced in the eighth. He was relieved by left-hander Mike Dunn, who gave up the home run to Ross on a 1-2 pitch.

Arizona starter Trevor Cahill left after a line drive bruised his right hip in the first. Josh Colmlenter allowed one hit in six innings of relief and David Hernandez (4-4) pitched a scoreless eighth to get the victory.

Reds 2, Pirates 1, 13 innings

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce ended Jason Grilli's saves streak with a solo homer in the ninth, and Brandon Phillips singled with the bases loaded in the 13th inning to rally Cincinnati past Pittsburgh.

Derrick Robinson and Shin-Soo Choo singled off Vin Mazzaro (3-2) with one out in the 13th and Joey Votto was walked intentionally. Phillips singled up the middle to end it.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 1

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina hit his fifth home run and Jake Westbrook pitched seven innings of two-hit ball in St. Louis' victory over Chicago.

Westbrook (3-2) worked around trouble almost the entire night in his second start since coming off the disabled list with a sore elbow. He gave up no earned runs, striking out two and walking three.

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SAIPAN 234-RENT



Three-peat for Kimura, Tan in Flipper



Tsunami Saipan swimmers pose with other winners in last Saturday's 5th Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament on Managaha Island.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan Swimming Center's Kensuke Kimura and Angel Marie Tan extended their streak in last Saturday's 5th Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament.

The two Tsunami Saipan bets topped the men's and women's divisions for the third straight time after completing the 1.5-kilometer swim around the waters off Managaha Island in 22:16 and 23:41, respectively. Kimura, who first won the Marianas

Authority-organized race in 2011 with a time of 21:29, surpassed his last year's time (25:01). He shared the 2012 top spot with fellow Tsunami Saipan swimmer Rezne Wong, who ruled the first two editions (2009 and 2010) of the annual competition.

The men's three-time champion's mark was just 38 seconds faster than runner-up and teammate Kaito Yanai, who was also last year's second place with his 27:10, but this time had a better record with his 22:54. Completing the Top 3 was Takumi Su-

gie, who clocked in at 23:24 and eclipsed his 2012 time (28:31).

In the women's division, Tan made it to the finish line with a new best time, as she posted 24:56 when she won the 2011 and 2012 editions of the race. Tan's teammates Angel de Jesus (24:56) and Miku Tammy (25:56) rounded out the Top 3.

The Top 3 finishers received trophies at the awards ceremony, while organizers also recognized winners in each age group. The list includes the men's 19 to 29's Kosuke Matsu-

moto (31:12), 30 to 39's Daishi Hiroki (25:20), 40 to 49's Hiroshi Tanaka (30:30), and over 60's Akio Kito (56:04). In the women's division, the top finishers were Miki Akiyama (30 to 39/ 33:46), Kumiko Kikuchi (40 to 49/57:15), Junko Saito (50 to 59/ 54:55), and Kumiko Suzuki (over 60/ 32:33).

In the junior division, Jhota Yushino and Kyona Rivera took the top honors after clocking in at 33:36 and 35:05, respectively.

Last Saturday's event drew 27 swimmers from the CNMI

SAIPAN

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After losing the opener, Tinian was pressured to win Game 2 to force a deciding match and the host seemed ready to recover when it took a 2-1 lead after two innings. Sanchez and Marvin Cruz scored at the

bottom of the first off Russell Hocog's boobos, while David Matagolai notched the lone run for Saipan off Sablan's error at home plate.

Leroy Reyes pitched for Saipan in Game 2 and was a bit sluggish in the first inning, walking the leadoff batter, allowing one hit, and striking out only one. He then went on

to find his rhythm, throwing a no-hitter in the next three innings and earning six strikeouts to shut out Tinian before Jared Sablan came in at the bottom of the fifth.

Despite failing to score in the next four innings, Tinian managed to keep the lead at the bottom of the third before a two-run single from Poland

Masaharu anchored a Saipan rally at the top of the fourth. Masaharu also reached home plate off a pitching error and the visiting team went on to grab the lead, 5-2, after four complete innings. Masaharu and company then secured the 10-run mercy rule and completed the sweep with a nine-run top of the fifth inning.

CNMI

From Page 32

sistent double-figure scorers for their squads.

The two guards will be joined on the CNMI Junior Nationals by much taller frontliners, one player from the mainland, and three Tinian cagers. Chris Mizer, who suited up for the CNMI U17 Nationals last year and saw action in a high school league in Seattle, is reporting back for duty for the Commonwealth along with Tinian's

Marc Babauta, Malcolm Maui, and Darius Pettis.

Completing the roster are frontliners Erick Dela Rosa, Bryle Alegre, and Jimmy Tudela, swingmen Shane Deleon Guerrero and Emerson Fera, and guard Ankie Manalili. Ed Manalili, Rufino Aguon, and Joe Villacrusis comprise the coaching staff.

The team will leave this Saturday morning and will have their last training session today. Yesterday they had a scrimmage against former members of the CNMI National Team and also conducted drills and practiced

set and situational plays.

"This whole week we have been working on both mental and physical conditioning. I believe the boys are prepared and understand what is required from them to be able to win. Our goal is to give 110 percent and some. I believe we have a very strong team this year," Manalili said.

The CNMI cagers will be battling teams from the host, Palau, and Marshall Islands at the Father Duenas Memorial School Phoenix Centre in Hagatna.

Meanwhile, the CNMI U19

Junior National Team would like to thank Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan for supporting their program and covering the travel expenses for PSS students who are on both on the boys and girls teams and the four coaches. The players and coaching staff also recognized the support of Mariana Resort and Spa (sponsor of the boys team uniforms), Tan Holdings, Triple J/Hertz Car Rental, Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), Lt. Gov. Jude Hofschneider, NMASA, and the families of the members of the squads.

and Japan, while a staff from the latter's *Marine Diving* magazine was also present at the race to cover the competition and feature Flipper and other tourist attractions in the Commonwealth in its August issue.

This year's Flipper race was supported by the Community Sports Center Foundation of Japan, Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament Executive Committee representatives from Japan, the NMI and Japan Saipan Travel Association, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, DFS, Northern Marianas College Nursing Dept, Department of Public Safety (Boating Division), Smiling Cove Marina,

Japan Marine Recreation Association, Japan Recreational Diving Industry Association, Japan Scuba Association, Japan Wetsuits Manufacturers Association, University of Live Sport Education Society; Northern Mariana Diving Operators Association, Japan Sport Diving Association; Japan Snorkeling Association, Japan Diving Federation, Meiji (VAAM), Mobby's; Mask (GULL), Tabata (TUSA), Moby Dick Restaurant, Bism, Delta Air Lines; Marine Diving Magazine, SAS, Central Sports, Japan Aqua Lung, Saipan World Resort, Country House Restaurant, and Tasi Tours & Transportation, Inc.

MGA June Ace this Sunday

The Marianas Golf Association will hold its June Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, June 23, at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi.

Show time is set at 9am and tee time an hour later at 10am.

MGA extends its thanks to Marianas Country Club for serving as their venue this weekend.

For more information, call MGA vice president J.J. Atalig at 285-4115 or email MGA at marianasgolf670@gmail.com. *(Saipan Tribune)*

VETERANS

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Donning the colors of the CNMI again are Glorily Williams, Jamie Mendoza, and Jeralyn Castillo, who all played for the Commonwealth's silver medal team in the Micro Games in Palau. Also in the roster are Rachel Abrams, Kaylania Lebraria, Jeraldine Castillo, and Kyle Ito, who competed in the U15 and U17 MBT in the past two years. Completing the roster are Jan-asia Travilla, Michelle Kautz, Madeleine Alegre, Friendly Joy Pena, and Marie Javier Fernandez. Former Saipan Southern High School gunner Preston Basa is the head coach with Connie Camacho assisting him. Rangamar also helped on in the training sessions.

pated in various sports (MISO) through out the school year and were in shape. We just incorporated the conditioning portion along with skills development drills and game schemes," Rangamar said.

With most of the players who won the silver medal both in Micro Games and 2011 MBT back this year, Rangamar said the team has set a high target: to make it to finals.

"We expect to be in the gold medal game as always. We like our chances," said Rangamar.

The CNMI cagebells will be up against Guam, Palau, and the Marshall Islands.

Rangamar also said that by consistently fielding a team in MBT, the CNMI is slowly improving women's basketball in the Commonwealth.

The CNMI bets started practicing only about two months, ago, but Basa said they are in shape as they had been to MISO competitions. With the members of the squad in good condition, the coaching staff focused more on developing their skills and getting them mentally prepared for tough games.

"We didn't think physical conditioning would be a factor as most of the girls partici-

Our women's basketball program is still at it's infancy compared to the men's but we have come a long way. We would really like to develop a dribble-drive motion type of offense to fit our talent and physical make up but we need to be patient and focus first on the long term and holistic development of the players first. This recipe has resulted in the women's team winning medal every tournament we've participated in," Rangamar said.

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MLB STANDINGS					NATIONAL LEAGUE				
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East Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB					
Boston	44	30	.595	—	St. Louis	46	26	.639	—
Baltimore	42	31	.575	1 1/2	Cincinnati	44	29	.603	2 1/2
New York	39	32	.549	3 1/2	Pittsburgh	42	30	.583	4
Tampa Bay	37	35	.514	6	Chicago	29	41	.414	16
Toronto	35	36	.493	7 1/2	Milwaukee	29	41	.414	16
Central Division					West Division				
Detroit	39	31	.557	—					
Cleveland	36	35	.507	3 1/2	Arizona	39	33	.542	—
Kansas City	34	36	.486	5	San Francisco	37	34	.521	1 1/2
Minnesota	32	36	.471	6	Colorado	37	36	.507	2 1/2
Chicago	29	40	.420	9 1/2	San Diego	36	36	.500	3
West Division					Los Angeles	30	40	.429	8
Oakland	43	31	.581	—					
Texas	40	32	.556	2	BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				
Los Angeles	32	40	.444	10					
Seattle	32	41	.438	10 1/2					
Houston	27	46	.370	15 1/2					

20th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Butch Sublemente nears the finish line of the 10K race in last Saturday's 20th Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run.



Noni Eugenio smile, as he is about to win first place in the 7K race.



DFS' Ben Babauta slows down as he nears the finish line of the 7K race.



Ronald Villafria and Jerome Diycio battle in a neck-and-neck run.



Pacific Islands Club employees pose for a group photo after the race.



Two age group winners pose with race announcer Wolf Mojica.



Kyla Ito leads a runner a few meters away from the finish line.



Marie Sablan smiles as her fellow DFS employees cheer for her.



Juanita Fajardo, left, smiles after getting the first place prize in her age group.



Four runners head to the finish line.



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Saipan Tribune Sports

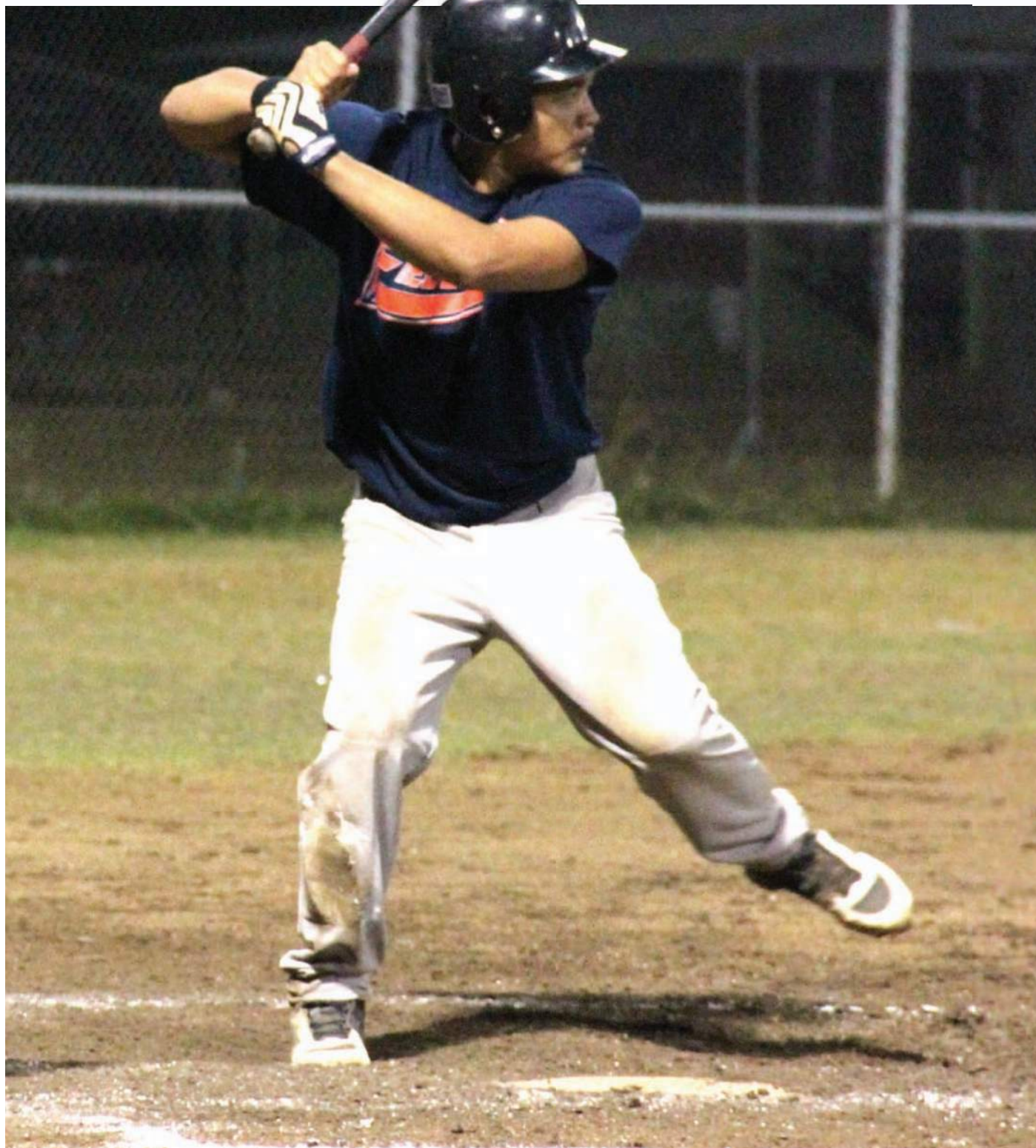


Three-peat for Kimura, Tan in Flipper
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Saipan Big League All-Stars advance



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan's Big League All-Stars swept Tinian in last weekend's 17th Annual CNMI District Baseball Tournament to clinch a slot to the 2013 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament.



The Saipan sluggers blanked host Tinian in Game 1, 8-0, and then walked away with a 14-2 win in Game 2 last Saturday to advance to the ASPAC, which will be held in Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga in the Philippines from June 29 to July 9.

Peter Lieto started out for the Saipan Big League All-Stars and threw a no-hitter in three innings, striking out four and walking only one. The Saipan bats used two other pitchers—Jonah and Jacob Flores—in the last four innings and although Tinian got two hits, the host still failed to make it to the scoreboard, as it had runners stranded in the fourth and fifth inning.

Tinian was in a scoring opportunity at the bottom of the fourth when Estevan Sablan singled, advanced to second on a wild pitch, and reached third on Jonah Flores' error with two outs (strikeouts). However, Sablan was left stranded at third when Saipan right fielder Ricardo Dela Cruz caught Christian Masga's fly ball.

With Tinian failing to score, Saipan kept a 5-0 advantage after four completing innings. The Joseph Flores-managed team got three runs in the first inning off a two-run single from Jeremy Atalig and a Patrick Tenorio run off a Tinian miscue. The two other runs came in the third off Robert Tudela's one-run double and an error.

The host got another chance to break the spell at the bottom of the fifth with Darius Pettis on third after making a single and stealing second and third and Jose Pangelinan walking to first with two outs. However, Saipan again caught a fly ball, this time with center fielder Poland Masaharu hustling for Lucio Sanchez's shot.

After frustrating Tinian anew, Saipan added three more runs in the sixth inning off two errors and a stolen base and the visitors went on to wrap up Game 1 after beating leadoff batter Masga to second and catching two more fly balls at the bottom of the seventh.

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◀ Ricardo Dela Cruz, seen here getting ready for a swing during a Big League game at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Field, helped the Saipan All-Stars beat Tinian in the 17th Annual CNMI District Baseball Tournament.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CNMI names junior team to MBT

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

BNMI Explosive guard Ichitaro Faisao and Jack Aranda lead the 12-player roster of the CNMI U19 Junior National Team that will compete in the 2013 Micronesian Basketball U19 Tournament in Guam starting this weekend.

Faisao and Aranda played for Kagman High School and Saipan Southern High School in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization and were among the top scorers on their respective teams. They also competed in various leagues on island and were among the con-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Some members of the CNMI U19 Junior National Team pose for a group photo during a break in their training session last night at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

Veterans return to women's team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A much-experienced team will see action for the CNMI in the 2013 Micronesian Basketball U19 Tournament in Guam starting this weekend.

"We've got some veteran players from the 2010 Micronesian Games, the 2011 MBT, and MISO, along with some young and upcoming talents," said Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands vice president Elias Rangamar when asked for the composition of the CNMI U19 Women's Junior Nationals.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rachel Abrams, center, seen here driving against Nicole Lebrina, left, and Jasmine Che during a game in the Kanoa Resort holiday early this year at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, will suit up for the CNMI U19 Junior National Team.